

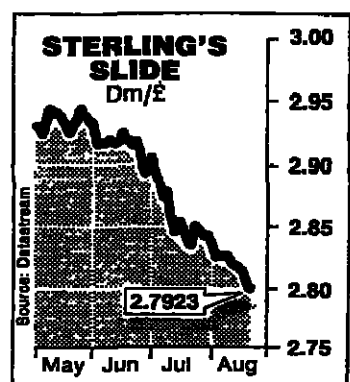
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## Reserves held ready as fear of French 'no' to Maastricht sends markets tumbling

# Banks prepare to prop up sterling

BY ROBIN OAKLEY  
IN LONDON AND  
SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH  
IN PARIS

THE pound fell to a new low against the German mark yesterday after a French opinion poll showed for the first time a majority against ratification of the Maastricht treaty. While three other French polls showed a slim majority in favour of the treaty on European union, all four polls show an increase in the number of voters who oppose the treaty.



banks are this morning poised to defend the pound and other currencies in the European exchange-rate mechanism against the advance of the German mark. The pound dropped half a penny when news emerged of the first French poll, falling to DM2.8012, a whisker away from DM2.7780, its absolute ERM floor against the mark. If forced to its lower limit, the Bank of England, backed by the Bundesbank, could use billions of pounds of reserves to support sterling.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will today be faced with only two options to defend the pound: either interest rates must go up or there must be massive intervention in the markets. The latter is more likely. Shares slumped in the wake of the French survey, losing 50 points at one stage but closing 30 points down on the day. "We are heading

for a crisis with the Bundesbank versus the rest," Paul Cherkow, head of global currency research at UBS Phillips & Drew, said. John Major and Mr Lamont, who met for breakfast yesterday, are now resigned to a series of upheavals for the pound in the run-up to the French referendum on September 20. Officials were keen to emphasise, however, that the prime minister and the Chancellor did not review ERM policy nor did they intend to react to market gyrations.

Senior government sources were also reduced to having to dismiss a wave of rumours in the City of London that the Chancellor had resigned. It was, they said, the fevered and sometimes deliberate fabrication of "sharks" who seek to manipulate the markets. Despite the government's studied calm yesterday, Tory MPs remain jittery about the Chancellor's prospects of saving off higher interest rates. Dealers are nervous that if the French should vote against Maastricht, the pattern of European exchange and interest rates would unravel. Britain would have great difficulty in keeping its interest rates as close as they are at present to the much stronger German economy and British loans and mortgages would become more expensive.

The first of the four French opinion polls on the Maastricht referendum showed that 51 per cent of respondents oppose the treaty and 49 per cent would vote for the deal. The survey was carried out by BVA for Paris-Match and A2 and FR3, two state-owned television stations, among a sample of 1,004 people. All the respondents, who were interviewed by telephone on Sunday and Monday, were over 18 and on the electoral register.

### TODAY IN THE TIMES

#### NEW ROMANTIC



Jeanette Winterson marries history to myth, fairy-tale to fact but always returns to love  
**Life & Times**  
Page 5

#### PAPERBACK WRITER



Penny dreadful becomes pound classic. Wordsworth breaks away from publishing rituals  
**Life & Times**  
Page 10

#### FUTURE FICTION



In The Children of Men, P. D. James charts a pilgrim's progress in a barren England  
**Life & Times**  
Page 1

## Carrington resigns on eve of Yugoslavia conference

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND NICHOLAS WOOD

ON THE eve of the London conference on Yugoslavia, Lord Carrington, the former Nato secretary-general who has headed the European Community peace effort for the past year, announced yesterday that he was resigning. He said in a terse statement that he could no longer devote to the conference "the full-time effort which will obviously be necessary and will extend over a considerable period". He had however been asked, and had agreed, to continue to be associated with the conference.

Lord Carrington had become increasingly weary with his fruitless shuttle diplomacy. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said yesterday that he was resigning during a mortar attack in Sarajevo. He immediately underwent surgery in a UN field hospital and two pieces of shrapnel were removed from his stomach and groin. He was then flown to Zagreb for further treatment, which was last night in stable condition. More than a hundred journalists have been caught in the crossfire in the Yugoslav civil war. Twenty-seven have been killed.

Photograph, page 14  
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Accidental eavesdropper: Cyril Reenan peers at the press from his home yesterday

## 20,000 phone hotline to listen to 'royal' tape

BY ALAN HAMILTON AND MELINDA WITTSOCK

MORE than 20,000 people telephoned The Sun yesterday to listen to a recording of an alleged telephone conversation between the Princess of Wales and a man called James. Listening to the entire saga would have put £11 on their telephone bill, and the newspaper said it would give the £50,000 profit from the hotline to charity.

Cyril Reenan, a retired bank manager living in Abingdon, Oxfordshire, was named yesterday as the radio amateur with the scanning device and the large aerial in his tree who stumbled across the conversation, said to have occurred on New Year's eve 1989 between the Princess at Sandringham and an amorous caller on a mobile telephone. Mr Reenan claimed yesterday that he and his wife had picked up the conversation by accident while amusing themselves with an electronic gadget.

Listening to other people's telephone conversations is an offence under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949 and the interception of communications Act, 1985, punishable by up to two years in jail and a fine of up to £2,000. But Scotland Yard reaffirmed last night that they had no plans to investigate the offence. Buckingham Palace, although saying nothing officially on the matter, indicated that it had not asked police to become involved.

## Hurricane forces thousands to evacuate New Orleans

BY DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

HUNDREDS of thousands of people fled their homes in Louisiana yesterday as Hurricane Andrew continued to churn across the Gulf of Mexico to New Orleans. A total of 1.7 million people have been advised to leave the state and Mississippi.

Three hundred thousand of New Orleans's half million inhabitants have left and another 500,000 have abandoned other lowland areas of Louisiana. New Orleans, which lies eight feet below sea level, is protected by a series of levees built to contain water from the Mississippi and Lake Pontchartrain. It was feared that if Andrew hit the river, water could be forced into the lake and if that burst its banks, the city would be flooded.

## Scientists go in to bowl for England

BY ALAN HAMILTON

SCIENTISTS at the University of Hertfordshire have set up a research project to crack the code of an enemy secret weapon that has inflicted great damage on England. Using computers, wind tunnels, the laws of aerodynamics and a large number of cricket balls, they will attempt to discover exactly how the Pakistani bowlers Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram achieve their devastating reverse swing.

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Waqar Younis: defies laws of aerodynamics



# IRA blamed for firebomb attacks on show castle

By CRAIG SETON

THE IRA was thought yesterday to have been responsible for three firebomb attacks that damaged property worth up to £250,000 at a military museum at Shrewsbury Castle, Shropshire, and small firms in two shops in the town.

The centre of Shrewsbury was sealed off early yesterday when about 50 fire officers were called to deal with a blaze at the castle, which houses a collection of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, the Shropshire Yeomanry and the Shropshire Horse Artillery. It was thought later that two devices, one explosive and one incendiary, may have gone off on two floors.

Another was believed to have been activated by a sprinkler device at the Staks soft furnishings store in the town's Charles Darwin shopping centre. Minor charring was later discovered at Wades, a furniture shop in the same complex.

No warning was given and

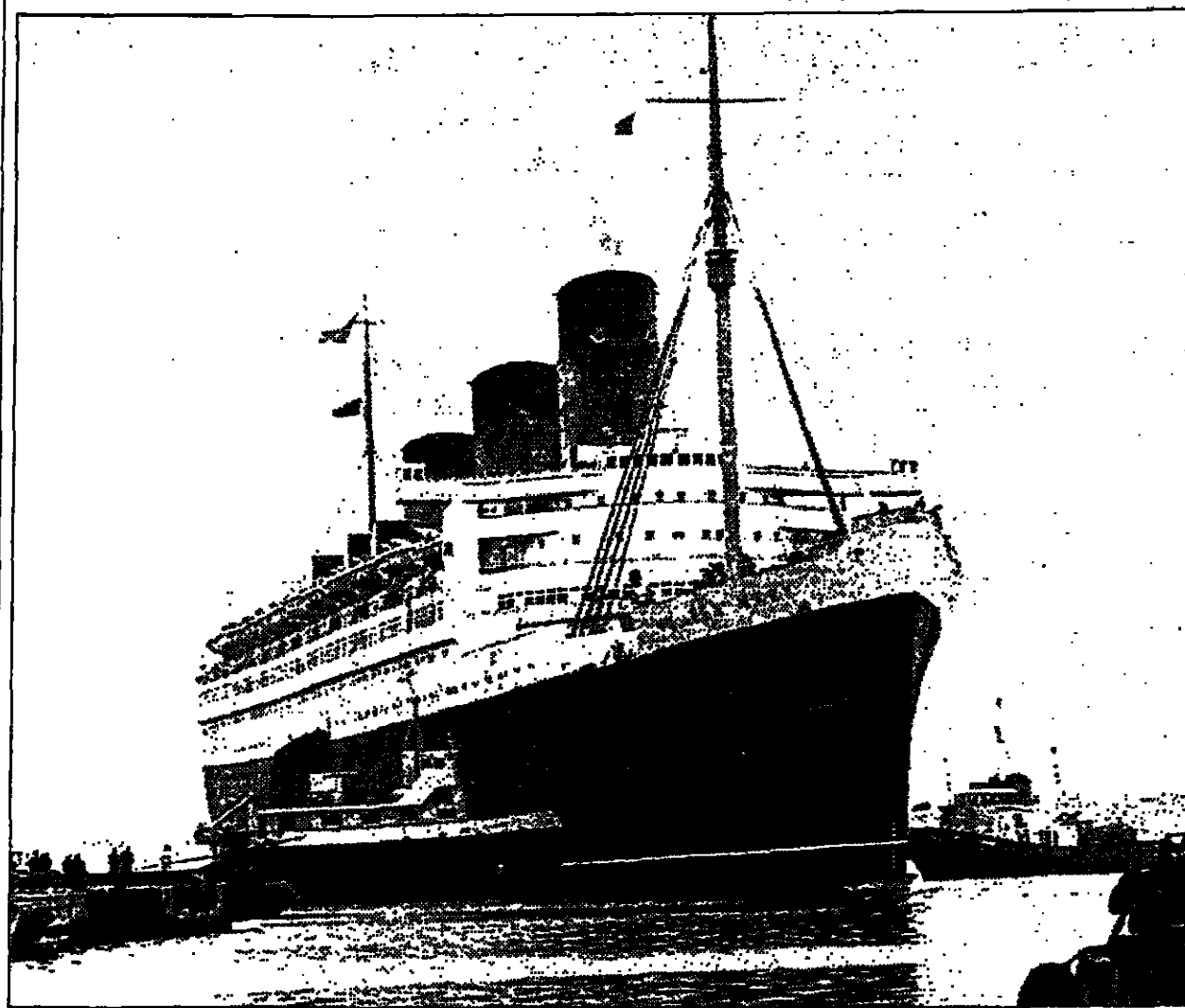
no group had claimed responsibility for the incidents by last night, but Inspector Alan Hows of West Mercia police said terrorists were thought to have carried them out. Derek Conway, the MP for Shrewsbury and Atcham, said it was "more than likely" that it was the work of the IRA.

Geoffrey Parfitt, curator of the Shropshire Regimental Museum at the castle, said the fire and possible explosion there were a disaster. He estimated the cost of repairs at £250,000 and said many relics were irreplaceable.

Exhibits of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and Shropshire Yeomanry had been worst affected. Showcases and windows had been shattered and there was extensive smoke damage. David Thursfield, an assistant chief constable of West Mercia, said he had been in touch with Commander George Churchill-Coleman, head of New Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad. Experts were examining the three scenes to try to piece together evidence of what had happened.

He said it was reasonable to assume the devices at the three sites had been planted by the same person or group and added: "No warnings were given and to date no organisation has claimed responsibility."

Police searched for other devices in the town throughout the morning and appealed for witnesses. Three years ago a series of bombs destroyed an accommodation block at Tern Hill barracks, near Shrewsbury, shortly after it was evacuated by members of the Parachute Regiment. The IRA later claimed responsibility.



Days of glory: tugs bringing the Queen Mary to her berth at Southampton in 1965

## Queen Mary's home port hopes again

By MICHAEL HORSNELL AND BEN MACINTYRE

A GOLD sovereign was offered yesterday to save the Queen Mary from the rocks and bring her home to Southampton from where she sailed on her maiden transatlantic voyage to New York in 1936. But fetching home the rusting 81,237 ton liner, which won the Blue Riband in 1938 for the fastest Atlantic crossing, will cost an extra £15 million including a refit, towing fees and dockside infrastructure at Southampton.

The three-funnelled liner, launched in a golden era when even third-class passengers had a choice of five hors d'oeuvres for dinner, is languishing as a loss-making

tourist attraction at Long Beach awaiting the scrap-merchants now that the Walt Disney Corporation has cancelled its lease on her from the Californian city.

The British shipping company Sea Containers made the offer through its wholly-owned subsidiary RMS Queen Mary Project with the backing of the city of Southampton, enclosing a prerequisite £50,000 deposit which may or may not be refunded if its bid is accepted.

The cost of bringing her back would have to be met by grants from heritage bodies, the public and possibly the government. Sea Containers

would manage the ship as an hotel and include a transatlantic liner's museum.

Steve Harris, spokesman for Sea Containers, said: "The one sovereign offer is a token amount. The real cost will be in bringing her home. But it will be a marvellous occasion when she finally sails up Southampton Water for the first time in nearly 30 years."

David Abraham, deputy leader of the Conservative group on Southampton city council, said: "We are saying to Long Beach 'Make the ship a gift to us so we can bring her home' and we are looking at ways of funding the project in order to get her

here."

Walt Disney has already spent £15 million on repairs and has decided to pull out of its lease at the end of this year after losing more than \$1 million a month. The city of Long Beach says a final decision on the fate of the ship will not be made until next month.

Several groups, including Japanese business concerns and a Mississippi gambling tycoon, are believed to have made offers for the 1,018 ft liner, whose engines and boilers have been removed, but the city fathers of Long Beach have said they will not necessarily sell to the highest bidder.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## £46,000 stolen from hospital patient

A cancer patient has had £46,000 stolen from his private bank accounts while in the care of Guy's Hospital Trust in London. The trust has told Remo Gaida, 79, that it will reimburse him if he fails to recover his money through the courts. Mr Gaida discovered that his savings had been taken while he was a resident of Becker House nursing home in New Cross, southeast London, part of the Guy's trust. He has been a resident there for five years. Police enquiries suggest that the money was taken by forged correspondence with Mr Gaida's bank. An employee at the nursing home, suspended after the theft was discovered and wanted for questioning by police, is believed to be abroad. Police have interviewed another person, not employed by the hospital, about the missing money. A trust spokeswoman said that the trust had no legal responsibility for Mr Gaida's losses but felt it had a moral responsibility to him "and wishes to ensure he doesn't suffer financial loss through this theft while he was in our care".

## Women's clinic saved

A clinic in west London that has helped thousands of women to overcome problems associated with the menopause has been saved from imminent closure. The clinic, at the Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, was under threat of closure after the drug company that provided funding decided to pull out. The clinic, which has treated between 30,000 and 40,000 women over the past 12 years, will now be funded by the Hammersmith and Queen Charlotte's Special Health Authority. Keith Edmunds, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, said that the clinic was set up before the benefits of hormone replacement therapy were widely known. Advances in treatment for menopausal problems has increased the number of women seeking help for distressing symptoms.

## Garden swallowed up

A family was in shock yesterday after part of their garden disappeared down an old mineshaft in Cornwall. A crater, 100ft deep and 15ft long, opened up in seconds at the back of the Wakem family's home in Gunnislake. They learnt about the collapse when their paperboy ran into the house shouting that the garden had disappeared. Now the Wakems, who have three children, aged seven, six and three, are waiting to hear whether any more of their garden is likely to disappear. Their detached home is 60 yards from where a 75ft-deep crater swallowed up a whole garden two months ago. Alyson Wakem, 34, who built the house with her husband 11 years ago, said: "We knew the whole area was riddled with mineshafts but we assumed they were safe as there were no restrictions on where we built our house."

## Ford to power Jaguars

Ford is to build the next generation of engines that will power Jaguar cars, it was announced yesterday. Jaguar has ruled out building engines for cars due on the market at the end of the century at its own Radford works in Coventry and has opted for the £100 million investment in Ford's engine works at Bridgend, South Wales. Radford has been making engines for Coventry Jaguars for 40 years, with the V6 and V12 engines achieving worldwide fame for their smoothness and power. The new four-litre V8 AJ26 will go into production in 1996 and will be the first big project Ford has undertaken for Jaguar since buying the company for £1.6 billion in 1989. As many as 50,000 engines a year will be made, putting in doubt engine production at Radford, although it may continue to make V12 engines.

## Firemen hit at EC rule

Chief fire officers have warned the government that European Community fire regulations threaten to increase delays in issuing fire certificates and safety inspections. The regulations propose to extend fire safety precautions to small offices, shops, factories and meeting places. The fire authority, rather than the local authority, becomes the enforcement agency. Fire chiefs say that enforcing the regulations could cost an additional £13 million and that, without extra resources, the fire service will face increasingly difficulty in meeting its statutory obligations. Two reports yesterday criticised the Isle of Wight and Surrey fire services for failing to meet targets for safety inspections and for their growing backlog in handling applications for fire certificates.

## Tinsley leads draughts

Dr Marion Tinsley has taken the lead in the world draughts championship against his computerised challenger, winning the twenty-fifth of their 40 scheduled games with the Edinburgh Cross opening (Ray Keene writes). Chinook, the Canadian computer program, capitulated after 26 moves of the game, at London's Park Lane hotel. Draughts and computer experts say that Dr Tinsley, 65, of Florida, who has held the world draughts title for 38 years, now appears to be mastering the machine, which can calculate three million moves a minute. The score is three wins for Dr Tinsley, two to Chinook and 21 draws. By draughts standards, this is a bloodthirsty encounter. In 1928, the match in New York between Samuel Gonotsky and Michael Lieber ended with 40 draws and no wins.

## Police hunt rapist

Police have issued an artist's impression, right, of a man believed to have carried out two rapes, two attempted rapes and a serious sexual assault on women in south London. He is white, aged 19-30, between 5ft 7in and 5ft 9in, with a pale complexion and brown, lank hair. He often wears a black leather jacket, white T-shirt and baggy blue jeans. In one attack a mother was raped in front of her two-year-old child.



## Prison staff to meet

The Prison Officers' Association is to meet on September 2 to decide the union's policy towards government plans to privatise Strangeways jail in Manchester. Four hundred delegates will attend the one-day conference at TUC headquarters in London to discuss whether the union should back plans by the prison service management to compete with the private sector in tendering to run the jail. The association's national executive has twice postponed taking a decision on a policy that has divided the union. Several senior members of the executive recognise the danger the union faces if it fails to back an in-house bid, but others are resisting the move strongly. If the union stands aside at Strangeways, it risks the loss of hundreds of jobs should the contract be awarded to a private company.

## Orkney report pledge

The report and recommendations of the judicial enquiry into the seizure of children on Orkney by social workers last year will be published after the parliamentary recess, the Scottish Office said yesterday. Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, the Scottish minister of state, has written to Jim Wallace, Liberal Democrat MP for Orkney and Shetland, emphasising that there was no question of the report not being made public. Mr Wallace had expressed fears earlier this month that the report would not be published.

## Gas prices to be cut again

By GEORGE SIVELL

BRITISH Gas is to cut prices to domestic and small business customers by 2 per cent from October. The reduction is on top of the 3 per cent cut that came into effect at the beginning of last month.

The combined savings should cut the bill for a typical three-bedroom semi-detached house by about £27 a year and reduce British Gas income by about £300 million a year. Cedric Brown, the chief executive, said prices were being cut because British Gas had based rates on forecasts that inflation would be running at 3.9 per cent by the year's end. It is now expected to be nearer 3 per cent. The cut came as British Gas declared an effective dividend increase for the first half of 1992 but a dip into the red for the second quarter. From April to June, British Gas lost £17 million before tax against a £247 million profit in the same quarter last year. For the half year, profits dipped from £1,307 million to £915 million before tax.

Gas in the red, page 15  
Business Comment, page 19

## Dollar lifts travel trade

BRITAIN'S tour operators could hardly contain their delight when, on July 21, the dollar was being traded at 1.918 to the pound. On that day exchange rates are effectively frozen throughout the travel industry to enable next year's brochure prices to be fixed. At 1.918 the dollar was not only 12 per cent cheaper than on the same day last year, but virtually guaranteed that 1993 holidays in Florida and other American destinations could be offered for sale at well below this year's brochure prices, with a good

Harvey Elliott reports on how the sliding dollar in July brought benefits to the UK travel industry

profit into the bargain. Within days of the "agreed costing date", tour operators had bought forward almost £1 billion worth of dollars with which to buy aviation fuel, hotel rooms and car hire in the USA throughout next summer. Because banks nat-

urally charge a commission and never sell long-term money at the "spot" price, they could not quite achieve the 1.918 figure.

Many, however, were able to sign agreements to buy dollars at the rate of 1.85 to the pound. That exchange rate is now fixed through to next summer, enabling cuts of up to 10 per cent to be made on holidays in the United States next year compared with this year's full brochure price.

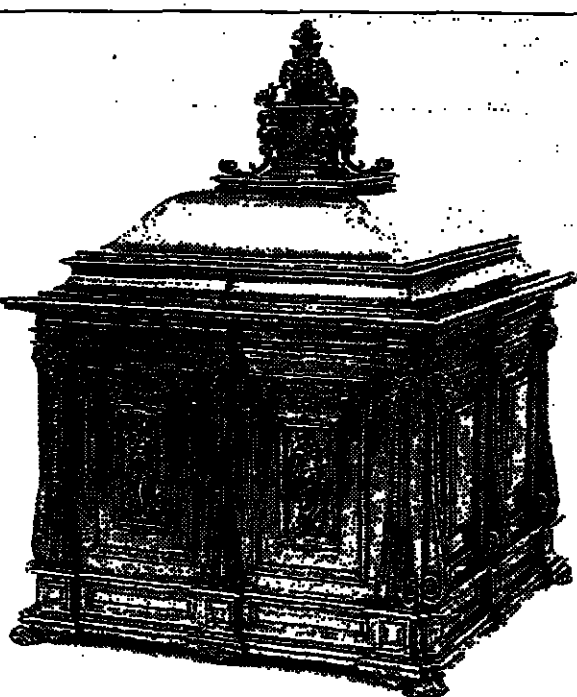
American tourist officials, who have seen the number of British visitors of all kinds go up from 861,000 in 1985 to 2.45 million in 1991, predict that there will be another 7 per cent increase by the end of this year and a further 6 per cent rise next.

This year, the number of charter aircraft crossing the Atlantic increased dramatically and official brochure prices came tumbling down for last-minute buyers as tour operators and airlines battled to sell them at any price.

A Virgin fly-drive holiday to Boston, for example, which appeared in the brochure at £359 per person was still being sold ten days ago for £249 and some self-catering packages could be picked up for less than £100 at the height of the discount war in June.

Thomson, the market leader, hopes that that will not be repeated and is adding only 5,000 additional places on its Florida programme next year. Prices are on average 8 per cent less than they were last year.

Bank action, page 1  
Leading article, page 11



## £200,000 casket stolen from V&A

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND  
SALEROOM CORRESPONDENT

A SEVENTEENTH century Florentine casket worth £200,000 was stolen from the Victoria and Albert museum in Kensington during opening hours on Sunday. Circumstances were so similar to those surrounding a theft last November that the V&A has warned other museums that a gang could be operating.

Jim Close, the museum's assistant director, declined to describe how the casket was taken but said: "The pattern suggested that it was the same people."

A patrolling warder noticed at 4.40 pm that the 10ins high casket had disappeared from its case. In the previous incident, also in a gallery close to the museum's Exhibition Road entrance, a £100,000 baroque altarpiece was torn apart when thieves were disturbed, but following publicity it was recovered.

The missing casket bears the Medici arms, Grand Ducal crown and Florentine lily on the domed lid, as well as panels containing the figures of Mars and Minerva.

## Jackson leaves with a glow

By NICHOLAS WATT

MICHAEL Jackson left Britain yesterday after a host of children spoke glowingly of how he set aside three hours to listen to their feelings on the world's problems.

The 84 children from all over Europe spelled out their views at a meeting at Regent's College, London, on subjects that included racism, the environment, famine, and AIDS. A girl of 12 was allowed the rare privilege of photographing the singer. But Jenna Tomlin, from Bromley, Kent, learnt an early lesson about dealing with a superstar: not a photo could be released without Jackson's approval and just before leav-

ing yesterday he allowed only two shots to be published. The youngsters met to help Jackson draw up a charter for his newly launched Heal the World Foundation, for which the singer has set aside millions of dollars.

Mohammed Ahmed, 16, from Brixton, south London, chose to talk about racism because he said that a friend was murdered in a racially motivated attack. "When I told Michael Jackson what had happened he was touched and said he was sorry. He cared. I never thought someone as rich as him would take that kind of interest."

At the end of the meeting

Jackson made a speech. Lotta Ljungquist, 16, from Gothenburg, Sweden, said: "He had a sore throat but still managed to say that he loved us all. He said that as long as he lives he will always help out children."

### CORRECTION

In a table in a report on house repossessions (August 24) the percentage change in orders made for West Yorkshire should have been -1, and the percentage change in suspensions for Devon and Leicestershire should have been +1 and +111 respectively.



THE MILLENNIUM.

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551 151

## With-profits bond holders to be asked if they knew risks

By Sara McConnell

ABOUT 1,300 holders of with-profits insurance bonds from Equity & Law and London and Manchester Assurance will be receiving letters from the companies in the next few weeks asking them if they fully understood the risks of the policy they bought. In some cases, people could get their money back.

This follows a six-month investigation by the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) into the marketing of such bonds. This week it emerged that 11 other companies have also been asked to withdraw one or more items from their range of marketing material. The regulator was concerned that companies and their agents were misleading people into thinking that the bonds were insurance policies and if investors try to cash them early they will not get back all the money they put in. In the small print of the marketing brochure, companies also reserve the right to apply what they call a "market value adjuster" that allows them to reduce the payout if the stock market is not performing.

About £1 billion has so far been invested in such bonds. Part of the reason for their popularity is because salesmen earn a high commission for selling the policies. They would not get any commission for recommending that someone keep their money in the building society.

John Cummings, deputy managing director of London and Manchester Assurance, said last month the company would be writing to 1,000 investors in two to three weeks' time. He said: "Lautro wanted more information on the market value adjuster as we had said that in certain circumstances we would apply the adjuster. It also asked for clarification on



Equity & Law  
London and Manchester Group plc

comparing the policy with building society accounts. Customers could contact the company if they wanted more information. Mr Cummings said. The bonds had been sold by the company's own tied agents and salesmen.

Duncan Kerr, Equity & Law's chief secretary, said that Lautro had "taken exception to the style and format" of a mailshot for the bonds that showed investors riding a fairground rollercoaster. The



Walker questioned why salesmen are paid

idea behind the illustration was that a with-profits bond could help to smooth out the peaks and troughs of the stockmarket. Mr Kerr said: "Lautro thought the presentation of the whole item detracted from the content." The 300 policyholders would be receiving a letter in the next few days, he said. He added that compensation for investors could not be ruled out but that it would take cases individually.

Julia Liesching, Lautro's chief policy officer, said that Lautro would check in Octo-

ber that its instructions had been carried out.

Yesterday's move against misleading insurance advertising for single premium insurance bonds shows how the industry is coming under increasing pressure to curb practices that cost policyholders millions of pounds a year (Lindsay Cook writes).

Also under scrutiny are the severe penalties faced by clients who surrender policies before maturity, and Lautro chief executive Kit Jellens is considering action against companies with high surrender records, including making them bear more of the cost of early surrenders.

The Office of Fair Trading, which has long campaigned for full disclosure of all charges before customers sign for policies, is now consulting the industry and consumer groups before recommending stiffer regulations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Interested parties have until September 4 to make their views known.

The National Consumer Council estimates that £200 million a year is lost through the early surrender of endowment mortgages and most insurance companies admit that less than half the policies they sell reach maturity.

This is largely because the main thrust is on selling 25-year endowments to young people who do not understand the losses they will incur if they cash in early. Even those who stay the course until the twenty-fourth year can lose thousands of pounds by cashing in a year early, forfeiting their terminal bonus.

"We found that endowment mortgages were being sold to those with the lowest level of financial sophistication on the recommendation of the building society or bank instead of repayment mortgages," said an NCC spokeswoman. "They are not necessarily the best deal for people struggling to buy properties."

Sir David Walker, when chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, suggested that the industry should look again at the way it pays salesmen. If they were paid over the full term of the policy they might make sure they only sold policies that were likely to mature, he argued.



Unwelcome whelk: Becky Oakley from the Sea Life Centre in Portsmouth with one of the Japanese invaders

## Giant whelks threaten British oysters

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

AN invasion of giant Japanese whelks is threatening to wreck British oyster and mussel beds. The predatory whelks, up to ten times the size of the larger British whelks, have been found on the North Sea bed, south of Dogger Bank, about 20 miles out. Marine

scientists fear that fishermen could inadvertently bring them in to inshore waters.

The Thomas rapa whelks (*Rapana venosa*) have already destroyed commercial shellfish populations in the Black Sea, where the species was accidentally introduced from Japan. The whelks were found in a colony by crab fishermen. They may have been brought as eggs on the

hull of a ship from the Black Sea. David Caswell, from Grimsby, pulled up nearly 60 in a single lobster pot and gave one to the Sea Life Centre, an aquarium in his home town of Portsmouth.

Jan Light, of the Conchological Society of Britain and Ireland, said: "They had never been seen in British waters before. They breed like wild-fire and feed voraciously on

other shellfish." David Heppell, curator of molluscs at the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, said: "Fishermen must be alerted because if they throw them overboard within a mile of the shore it could have dire consequences for inshore shellfisheries."

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said it was investigating.

## Farmers unite to repel hippies

Jalopies are no match for the Bodmin Moor tractors, writes Lin Jenkins

WITH the quiet conspiracy of the smugglers of Daphne Du Maurier's *Jamaica Inn*, a group of Cornish farmers have united to repel "New Age" travellers intent on holding a festival on Bodmin Moor over the bank holiday weekend.

The residents of 22 scattered farms have mounted 24-hour patrols to prevent a repeat of last year's White Goddess festival, when more than 5,000 travellers invaded Davidstow Moor for two weeks. Nearly 50 sheep were killed by dogs and the land was left in such a state that the local environmental health department deemed it too contaminated for use.

The main influx of travellers is expected to begin today and the locals, most of whom have commoners' rights on the privately owned moor, have already seen off several. Vans and cars have been towed back on to the public highway after early arrivals declined to move voluntarily.

Julie Dowton, secretary of the Davidstow Commoners' Association, said: "We have taken legal advice and we are entitled to remove trespassers. If they fail to comply with our request to leave, then we can use reasonable and minimal force." Pulling vehicles off the moor by tractor complied with the law. "We are absolutely determined there will be no festival. Last year was a nightmare."

Devon and Cornwall police have been following the movement of travellers for some weeks, after being taken by surprise last year when the usually small festival ballooned. All leave has been cancelled from today and there are contingency plans to close roads.

Thousands of travellers are now scattered over southern England after Sussex police foiled attempts to hold a festival at Cissbury Ring, near Worthing, last week.

**SCORES**

| Years | Total premiums paid | Surrender values for term of 25 years |
|-------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1     | 1,200               | 0                                     |
| 2     | 2,400               | 0                                     |
| 3     | 3,600               | 700                                   |
| 4     | 4,800               | 1,800                                 |
| 5     | 5,000               | 3,200                                 |

Source: Office of Fair Trading

Leading article, page 11

## Drab backdrop for Britain's best pub

Hard work, good food and superb beer brought Camra's top award to Wolverhampton. Craig Seton writes

A DINGY Wolverhampton back street lined with old factory buildings and overlooked by a viaduct carrying a main railway line is the unpromising venue of the best pub in Britain, acclaimed today by the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra).

A few years ago the Great Western in Sun Street was considered to be one of the last legs. Built in the 1850s and located in a rundown industrial area near Wolverhampton town centre it was out of place and out of time five years ago when Holdens, a small Black Country brewery, took it over from one of the country's largest brewing companies.

Now barristers and judges from the nearby Wolverhampton Crown Court, office staff and foundry workers are among loyal customers served by Keith and Jose Walker, both 53, the tenants.

The Great Western is the first public house in the West Midlands to win Camra's pub of the year award and it is praised for its outstanding beer, superb food and friendly bar staff. It serves four real ales and no item on its straightforward food menu costs more than £2.50. Homemade steak and kidney pie, giant hot pork and beef cobs and a local speciality, a gruel of grey mushy peas and bacon, costing only 70p, are all a full meal. Furnishings are simple, the walls are lined with railway memorabilia and there is no juke box.

Keith Walker served his lunchtime customers yesterday wearing a crisp white shirt and tie while his wife was in charge of kitchen staff, including her daughter and sister. It is their third tenancy and when they took it over they would get up at 5.30am to prepare cheap but comprehensive breakfasts to put it on the map.

Mrs Walker said: "It was a down-and-out pub when we took it over, a real dive, but it was a challenge. I think we give our customers good value for money. They want good food and beer. It just took off."

Mr Walker said that because of its location, the pub had no natural clientele and they had to attract customers by word of mouth. The Black Country was a gritty industrial area and people did not want anything too fancy.

David Fryer, an official of Camra's West Midlands branch, said: "This just shows what can be done with a little hard work, application, excellent beer, good food and good management. It is a magnificent pub."

## Courses at home for ex-miners

By Matthew D'Ancona, Education Correspondent

ONCE the heart of Welsh mining and union militancy, the valleys of South Wales will become an impromptu seat of learning next year under plans to set up a community university to enable jobless miners to take degree courses while living at home.

University College, Swansea, plans to offer 40 places to students in degree subjects such as community development, community enterprise, modern Welsh and European studies, backed up by bursary funds. A £20,000 grant from the Universities Funding Council will allow the new Community University for the Valleys, modelled on American community colleges, to provide lectures, libraries and crèche facilities close to the homes of the long-term unemployed.

British Coal last week announced the closure of two pits and the loss of nearly 500 jobs in the South Wales' minefield. Leaving only one pit employing 370 men in an area that once gave work to more than 100,000. Dons at Swansea hope the new initiative will be a lifeline to enterprise in deprived communities.

Hywel Francis, director of adult continuing education at Swansea, said that the new community university would be a catalyst for similar schemes in disadvantaged areas. People who were unemployed or had domestic responsibilities could pursue part-time or full-time courses.

David Thomas, a retired miner from West Glamorgan who was badly hurt in an underground accident in 1985, said he would now be able to work from home "and study a couple of times a week in a subject like politics or history."

## Top schools A-level league in The Times

THE first ranking of A-level results to compare state and independent schools will appear in *The Times* on Saturday. At least 250 leading schools will be named in a special feature analysing the performance of the two sectors.

This year's improved performance at A-level has produced marked fluctuations in the positions of state schools at the top of the league tables. Independent schools are expected to show similar movement.

The feature will chart the leading independent schools' results over the past five years. The result will be the most comprehensive picture yet of their A-level performance, a yardstick against which others can be judged.

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Architect of education reforms warns against 'untrustworthy' results for science pupils

## Ignore curriculum tests, parents told

By Nigel Hawkes  
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE national curriculum is failing children, making impossible demands on teachers and misleading parents, the annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was told yesterday.

Paul Black, professor of science education at King's College London, and one of the architects of the government's educational reforms, said that teachers, pupils and parents would be well advised to ignore the results of science attainment tests for 14-year-olds under the national curriculum because they were bound to be untrustworthy.

Professor Jim Campbell, of Warwick University, said that the introduction of the national curriculum into primary schools had left teachers on a treadmill, working harder and achieving less.

Class teachers had to become "the primary school equivalent of Einstein, Madame Curie and Linford Christie all rolled into one" in

BRITISH  
ASSOCIATION  
Southampton

order to satisfy the demands of the national curriculum. The intellectual demands made of teachers could be realised "only by renaissance men and women", of whom there were few in the primary teaching force, he said.

Professor Black, who chaired the committee in 1988 that recommended how children should be tested, said that the government had abandoned most of the principles embodied in his report. These changes had not been grounded in evidence, but based on prejudice and "are set fair to do serious harm to children's education".

The kind of standardised tests now envisaged were similar to those that had been used for many years in the United States, but which were now being abandoned there. Far from fitting naturally into classroom practice, they en-

couraged teachers to drill pupils to pass the tests.

The results could not possibly be reliable, because the tests would be too short. At 14, for example, pupils will face a three-hour test in science to see if they meet three "attainment targets". That meant one hour per target.

"From all the evidence that I know, the result of one hour of testing on science performance will be untrustworthy," he said. "To cover the ground, the test will be bound to adopt those narrow forms of test items which the USA authorities are abandoning after decades of experience with them. Teachers, pupils and parents would be well advised to ignore the results."

The Education Reform Act had become an instrument for direct government control in which the opinions of ministers were insulated from professional opinion and expertise, Professor Black said. "As an academic researcher who saw the act as a force for good, and who has given much of his time to trying to help its development, I am deeply disappointed and fearful at the outcome."

Professor Campbell said that the national curriculum, a dream at conception, had turned into a nightmare at delivery. Conscientious teachers committed to reform were having to work unreasonably long hours, averaging about 54 a week, to keep up.

Only a third of the time was spent teaching, the rest in preparation, marking, meetings, in-service training and other professional development, he said.

This "enervating treadmill" left teachers working hard, but getting little satisfaction. "I notice that I never complete what I hope to achieve," one teacher told him, summarising the feelings of many.

Professor Campbell suggested that the demands of the national curriculum might be modified to make them more realistic without subjecting teachers to a continuation of "unmanageable workloads and a profound sense of failure". In many cases, such changes would need more money, to improve staffing levels and the teaching materials available in schools.

## Experts clash over Britain's decline

Does it matter when other nations take up science and push us down the league? Nigel Hawkes reports

IS SCIENCE in Britain in decline? Does it matter? Yesterday two of the country's leading experts on science policy clashed at the annual meeting in Southampton.

Ben Martin, of the Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University, said evidence clearly showed that British science was slipping behind that of other countries. Quoting evidence of the number of scientific papers published and how often each one was cited by other scientists, Dr Martin said that while British science had grown it had done so less quickly than that of other nations.

Dr Martin's leading critic, Terence Kealey of Cambridge University, said that a relative decline merely meant that more countries were now working at science, which should be welcomed. "In the nineteenth century only three countries had any real science — Britain, France and Germany. British science was then probably a third of world science. Now it is a tenth, but that is a result of many other countries, including the US and Japan, joining in," he said.

"Britain still does ten per cent of world science with only one per cent of the world's population and so long as science continues to grow absolutely, relative decline is inevitable and even desirable."

Dr Kealey then suggested that government support for science should be reduced. Since it is an article of faith at

the conference that the more that is spent the better, this was a revolutionary notion. He said that Britain had been in economic decline for two to three decades, even though it was a major science nation. This was also true of the US, Australia and New Zealand. Japan, with no great government funding of civil research and development, had flourished. When governments spent more on science, industry spent less and the economy performed worse, he said.

The US government had spent almost nothing on science before the second world war, although its economy grew rapidly. Since American science spending burgeoned, economic growth had continued at the same rate, although more recently it had faltered.

Dr Martin conceded that both Switzerland and Japan, two highly successful economies with low government science spending, appeared to support Dr Kealey's thesis — but said both were untypical and not to be taken as a model. He called for a government policy of concentration on strategic areas of science and said he hoped that the new Office of Science and Technology would provide this.

For Dr Kealey this was all too familiar. The simple fact was, he said, that public funding of civil research and development damaged science because it displaced more private money than it fed in. "You can have too much science," he said.

## Ministers urged to call halt to urban build-up in South

UNSPOLISHED countryside all over southeast England will disappear under bricks and mortar unless present accepted levels of housing development are reduced, the Council for the Protection of Rural England says in a leaflet published today.

The housing slump should be no cause for complacency, Tony Burton, the council's senior planner, said yesterday. The long-term threat of urbanisation was as great as ever.

Last month, Michael Howard, the environment secretary, had indicated that the government expected 855,000 new houses to be built in the South-East between 1991 and 2006. That was based on an assumption of 57,000 completions a year, the same rate agreed in 1989, in spite of important changes in planning and environmental policies in the meantime.

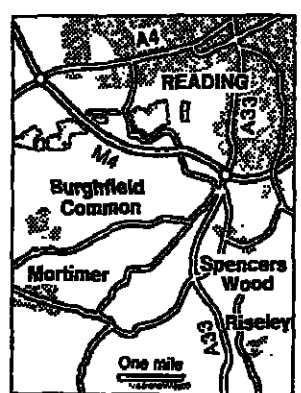
"The future of hundreds of sites around towns and villages in the South-East hangs in the balance," Mr Burton said. "Reducing levels of housing development to that which the environment of the South-East can tolerate is one of the most important steps which the government could take on the road to environmentally sustainable development."

The leaflet observes that housebuilding is responsible

John Young  
reports on the  
fight to keep  
builders from the  
South-East

for the loss of more of the South-East's countryside than any other form of built development. More than half the farmland lost to urban development goes under new houses.

Reducing the level of housing development does not mean ignoring the homeless, or preventing affordable houses from being built, the leaflet says. But history has shown that building houses does not in itself solve the



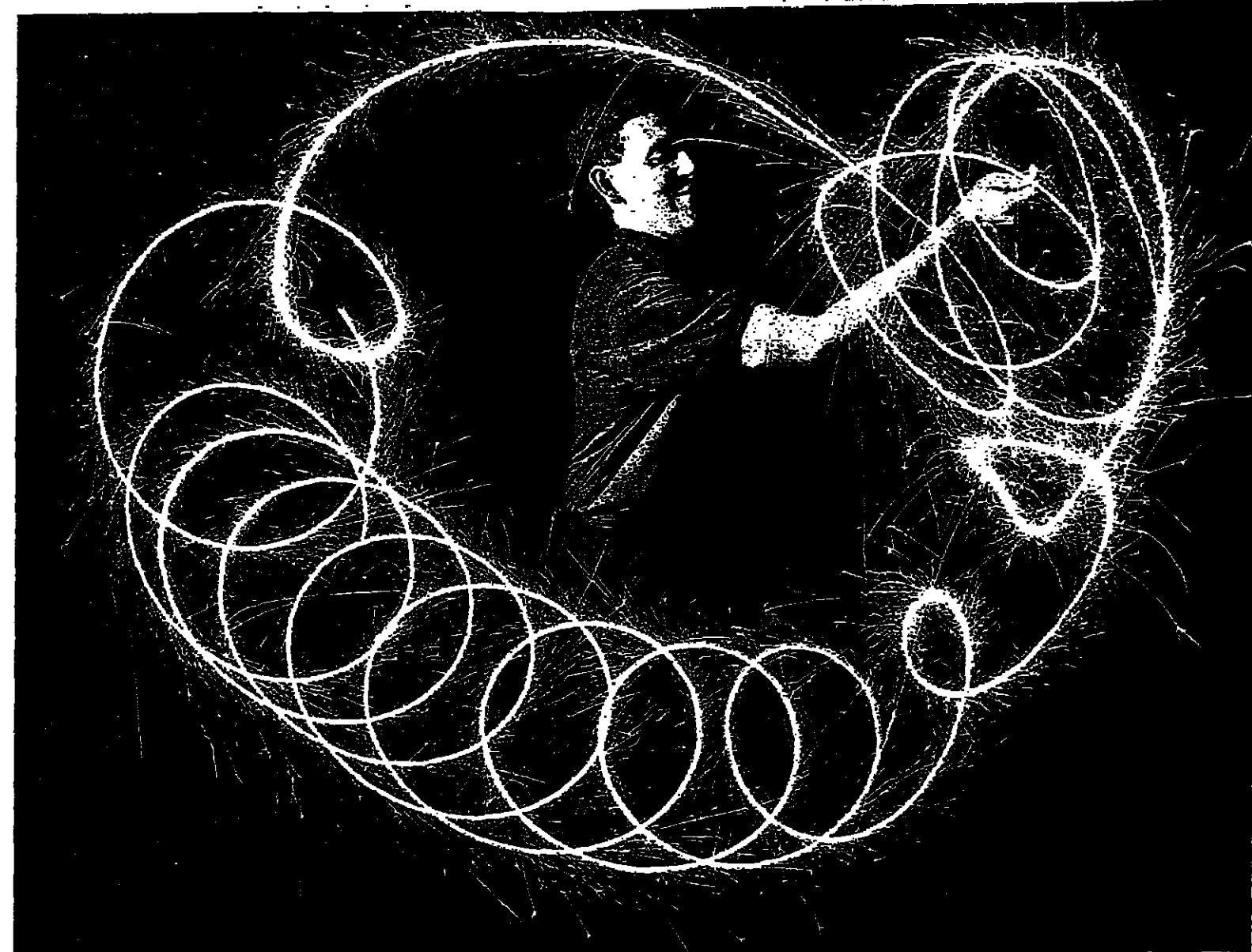
problems. Record levels of housebuilding in the 1980s coincided with record increases in homelessness and a chronic shortage of affordable housing.

New development should be concentrated on making the best use of the huge tracts of wasteland in towns and cities, and on revitalising the thousands of vacant unfit houses. London alone has more than 1,140 hectares (nearly 3,000 acres) of urban dereliction, an area which has increased by more than 300 per cent since 1974. Outside London there are a further 700 hectares of derelict land in other towns and cities in the South-East.

"It is frequently argued that such a small percentage of the countryside will disappear under housing development in the next ten years that conservationists' worries are a storm in a teacup," the leaflet says. But statistics tell only part of the story.

The predicted loss of 1.27 per cent of the total land to urban development meant a 10 per cent increase in the urban area outside London, and the loss of more than 34,000 hectares of rural land. That is equivalent to losing an area of countryside almost the size of the Isle of Wight in 20 years.

The leaflet pinpoints as



Shining example: Andy Gosse, from the British Gas research station at Solihull, West Midlands, waves a sparkler in front of delegates at the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Southampton yesterday. He and his colleague David McHugh gave an hour-long lecture that featured 50 experiments, including explosions, all designed to emphasise safety and the science of combustion

## Scientists lose fight against malaria

## No change in lot of the elderly

WITHIN five years it may be impossible to protect travellers to some parts of the world against malaria (Nigel Hawkes writes). The growth of drug resistance is progressive and frightening, and quinine is losing its effectiveness, the meeting was told.

Studies by Nicholas White and colleagues at the faculty of tropical medicine at Mahidol University in Thailand have shown a steady loss of drug effectiveness in malaria patients. "We're not keeping pace in terms of new drugs," said Adrian Hill, of the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. "Recently introduced drugs such as Mefloquine are losing effectiveness, and there are relatively few new drugs in development."

Already malaria is causing between one and two million deaths a year, almost entirely in developing countries. The danger, said Dr Hill, was that the declining effectiveness of drugs would increase deaths to ten million a year.

Deaths in Britain are rare, but not unknown: recently Richard Hughes, brother of the MP Simon Hughes, died after contracting malaria on his honeymoon in Kenya.

The riskiest areas for travellers are the relatively prosperous parts of the developing world, including Thailand and Kenya, where drugs have been widely used, allowing resistance to develop. Failure to complete a course of anti-malaria tablets, which is common, encourages resistance

because it allows the infective agent to survive and co-exist with low levels of the drug. Better use of drugs could slow the development of resistance, Dr Hill said.

He reported on efforts to develop a vaccine against malaria by looking for the genes that control the immune response to the disease. "We have identified a probable mechanism for the immune response gene, which should lead us to one or two antigens which might then be candidates for a malaria vaccine," he said. "We should have some cocktail of proteins in five years that should give useful protection against the disease."

Dr Bridget Ogilvie, director of the Wellcome Trust,

warned that in spite of the threat posed by malaria, developing a vaccine might not attract drug companies because the profits would not be large. "There used to be many companies producing vaccines, now there are very few," she said. "They are expensive to develop and to maintain, and the risks are high. Industry is rather reluctant to enter into it."

The most widely used vaccine, developed in Colombia, has been tested on tens of thousands of people in Latin America, with a claimed effectiveness of 70 per cent. "So far, these trials have not been published in full," Dr Hill said. "We need more testing to know if this vaccine is really effective."

## Researchers kill myth of unchanging countryside

By Nick Nuttall  
TECHNOLOGY  
CORRESPONDENT

THE popular romantic image of a bygone rural life in which villagers lived in self-contained isolation untouched by events outside their parish is challenged in a study of three English villages published yesterday.

Migrations into villages were commonplace and could have a significant impact on a community's life. Andrew Hinde, a researcher in the social statistics department at Southampton University, told association members that vil-

lagers welcomed the newcomers. "The people who moved in... were not marginal to the social and economic life of these villages, playing walk-on parts. They were often central to the drama," he said.

The research, based on a detailed analysis of census returns and registers of births, deaths and marriages between 1841 and 1891, also challenges the view that in the increasingly industrialised late nineteenth century, the more able villagers migrated to the towns, leaving the countryside a backwater.

The study was based on

Ashley near Winchester, and Somborne and Stratfield Turgis, northeast of Basingstoke. The researchers believe they are typical of English villages of the time.

A study of Dursley's population in 1891 found that 192 people were born in the parish, but 262 were born outside, including several from the Midlands. A retired doctor from Kent and a farmer and his family from Cornwall. Similar patterns were found in the other two Hampshire villages.

To assess whether this migration had been important for village life, the re-

searchers studied records that showed the jobs of the newcomers and whether they were permanent residents or just seasonal workers.

Many new arrivals were found to have been central to the community's life. For example, in Ashley in 1861, four farmers had been born in Dorset, Norfolk, Devon and Scotland. In Stratfield Turgis in 1861, the hotel keeper was from Leicester and the curate came from Tottenham, north London.

The villages also had a rapid turnover of residents. In Dursley, among a population of 483, more than 230 people

moved away between 1871 and 1881 but nearly 200 moved in. Many migrants were women leaving their parish to marry or to take up servants' jobs.

A study of the Houghton family, an important name in Dursley since at least 1632, found that in 1891 12 married men of that name were living in the village, 11 of them born in the parish. All but one of these men had wives who had been born elsewhere, from surrounding villages such as Ichen Stoke and Upton but also from Winchester and South Australia.

Differences in living arrangements today could be explained more by changes in the birth rate, the availability of small housing units and standards of living than by changes in family values, said Mr Wall, acting director of the Economic and Social Research Council's group for history of population and social sciences.

Mr Wall found that the number of over-75s in institutions differed little over the centuries. The change in modern times was that more women were in institutions because of their higher life expectancy.



Safe for the moment: Beech Hill, in the path of the Great Lea project

development "hot spots" Carterton, Oxfordshire; Reading, Berkshire; Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire; Micheldever, Hampshire; Bedford; Brighton; Horley, Surrey; Stevenage; Hertfordshire; the Medway Gap in Kent; and Chesham, Essex.

Until now the M4 motorway sweeping south of Reading has provided an accepted barrier against further urban sprawl. To the north the spread of the housing estates surrounding one of Britain's most successful boom towns has appeared to be almost unstoppable.

On the southern side the scene changes abruptly. Barely 40 miles from the centre of London narrow lanes meander through idyllic countryside

hamlets too small to merit more than a passing glance. The parkland of Stratfield Saye, home of the Duke of Wellington, is a reminder of a less frenetic age.

But the peaceful acres to the west of the village of Spencers Wood, interrupted only by the A33 dual carriageway between Reading and Basingstoke, have for many years been coveted by would-be developers.

In 1988 plans by the Speyhawk property group for a de facto new town on 300 acres adjoining Spencers Wood, three miles south of Reading, were included in the Berkshire structure plan at the insistence of Nicholas Ridley, then environment secretary, but were deleted under pressure from environmental bod-

ies. The scheme, to be known as Great Lea, would have comprised up to 7,000 new homes, a shopping centre and a new railway station.

The scheme was opposed by Michael Heseltine, Mr Ridley's predecessor and later successor at the department, who has consistently argued against large-scale development to the west of London, suggesting that expansion in the South-East would be best accommodated by his favoured east London "corridor" which runs along both banks of the Thames estuary.

An appeal by Speyhawk against the refusal of planning permission was rejected after a public enquiry in 1989. That is unlikely to be the end of the story.

## Russian academics do it the hard way

By Kerry Gill

ANYONE who suspects that academics are a soft lot unused to the vicissitudes of modern life should be introduced to Viktor Anisimov, deputy head of the St Petersburg Institute of Mechanics, and his six weather-beaten colleagues.

The seven scientists had been invited to exchange expertise in oil industry technology and research with their counterparts at the new Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen. The problem was that the Russians had no hard currency with which to pay the £350 fares from St Petersburg to Aberdeen.

Mr Anisimov and his friends borrowed a 30ft yacht and, despite storms and a lack of modern navigational equipment, completed the 19-day voyage from the gulf of Finland to Aberdeen harbour.

The crew lived on coffee, biscuits, oatmeal and sardines as bad weather forced them to take a 1,000-mile zig-zag course through the Baltic and the North Sea. Accommodation aboard the yacht, named Success, was so cramped that at least two were forced to remain on deck whatever the weather. They stopped twice, at Konigsberg and Copenhagen.

Yesterday Mr Anisimov and

his crew were preparing for the return voyage to St Petersburg. He said: "This skill has helped us at a time when air travel is difficult to arrange and expensive. It was very stormy all the time in the Baltic and none of our navigational aids worked."

"We had to rely on a compass and a lot of luck to get here." Luckily all are experienced sailors and Mr Anisimov is a member of the Russian naval reserve. The Russians were spared the red-tape nightmare of trying to get exit visas. By using seamen's passports they were allowed a five-day stay in Britain.

Their visit was the result of a meeting between four of the Russians and scientists at the university. As crew members of the yacht Polstar during last year's tall ships race they took the opportunity to call at the university to discuss future exchange visits and possible joint research projects. This summer two staff from the university paid the first official visit to the St Petersburg Institute and invited the Russian delegation back.

A university spokesman said: "We were expecting a call from the airport to say they had arrived. We were surprised to hear that instead they had sailed into Aberdeen."

سكناء من الرمال



British box office boom

# Arts festivals join the ranks of big business

By SIMON TAIT  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is becoming one great island arts festival, with 557 annual events lasting from two days to several weeks each, the Policy Studies Institute says in a report published today.

In 1991 festivals sold 4.2 million tickets worth £17.6 million, 41 per cent of the income from the festivals have been founded since 1980, often as a means of boosting local economies by attracting tourists and encouraging urban renewal.

"Although many are small-scale, taken together arts festivals are big business," the report says. Last year festivals received an estimated £6.8 million in sponsorship, while £7 million came from local authorities.

Festival income ranges from £115 to more than £5.5 million, with an average of £22,000, while a third have an income of less than £10,000. The biggest box office income draws are the Edinburgh International Festival and Glyndebourne Festival Opera, accounting together for more than 30 per cent of all festival box office receipts. Five festivals take more than 50 per cent of all receipts.

Apart from their proliferation, the most obvious feature of arts festivals is diversity in size, content and professional input. The report says that 62 per cent of arts festivals are professionally managed.

"Arts festivals are very diverse in their size and subject matter, but the one thing they have in common is the celebratory aspect," Heather Rolfe, the author of the report, said.

Though audiences are increasing, the economics of running an arts festival are becoming more difficult. The income of British festivals is an

Tickets sold

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Edinburgh Fringe   | 520,000 |
| BBC Promenade      | 250,000 |
| Concerts           | 250,000 |
| Edinburgh Festival | 167,000 |
| Welsh National     | 164,000 |
| Edinburgh Festival | 130,000 |
| Brighton Festival  | 117,000 |
| Umgangen Festival  | 117,000 |

estimated £40.6 million a year, but their organisers spend £40.9 million on them. More than half had a deficit last year, and 13 per cent have an accumulated deficit.

The report says organisers were optimistic because of the size of audiences and the willingness of volunteers, but pessimistic because of lack of financial support by the government or the uncertainty of local authority funding.

Dr Rolfe said: "Organisers are saying that sources of funding are changing towards business sponsorship, but as the recession bites deeper that money is becoming harder to find." The amateur organisers who run 38 per cent of festivals may lack experience in treading the business sponsorship they need.

Festivals are popular with the media: 39 per cent of them had radio and television coverage last year. They have also been an important conduit for new works, with 34 per cent of

them commissioning artists, but that may be changing with a reduction in commissions because of reduced funding.

"Some festival organisers believe that tough competition for funding encourages festivals from including innovative work and makes festivals programmes increasingly predictable and unadventurous," the report says.

The report is published at the height of the festival season, and almost a third of organisers plan changes often to include more non-musical events and to appeal to younger people. Others are reconsidering dates and duration.

Edinburgh might split its international fringe, jazz, film, television and books festivals, which are concurrent, to spread them over the year, and draw the international festival out to cover five weeks instead of three.

*Arts Festivals In The UK*, by Heather Rolfe, is published by the Policy Studies Institute at £14.95.

Leading article, page 11



Getting in on the act: Prince Edward rehearsing yesterday with the Haddo Players for the company's production of *Trelawny of the Wells* at Haddo House, Grampian

## Battle theme takes BBC2 into autumn

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CONFLICT in the twentieth century will be the theme of *War And Peace*, a month-long series of documentaries, classic programmes and feature films that forms part of the £34 million autumn schedule announced yesterday by BBC2.

The series, which ends on Remembrance day on November 8, will include a powerful reflection on warfare by the poet Tony Harrison. Mr Harrison has collaborated with Peter Symes to make *Gaze of the Gorgon*, in which the creature of legend that turned men to stone becomes a metaphor for the twentieth century, posing the question of what society can do to resist its petrifying gaze.

*Renouance War* looks at the history of conscientious objection in Britain during both world wars, while *Battle Cries* investigates how soldiers behave in combat. *Splendid Hearts* attempts to reclaim the history of the names on war memorials.

BBC2's Saturday night drama series *Performance* returns with Sir Alec Guinness and Jeremy Irons in *Tales from Hollywood*, written by Christopher Hampton. Set in

1940s Hollywood and seen through the eyes of Thomas Mann, his brother Heinrich, Bertolt Brecht and Odon von Horvath, the play examines the bizarre cultural conflicts of wartime Hollywood.

Alan Yentob, controller of BBC2, has promised "a delicious deviant brew of demonology" in *Witchcraft*, about a screenwriter who chooses seventeenth-century witchcraft as the subject of her latest film script. As filming begins the boundaries of fiction and reality blur. Jennifer Saunders writes and stars in a new comedy series with Joanna Lumley, *Absolutely Fabulous*, which revolves around a fashion PR boss and her best friend.

The Prince of Wales will join Sir Roy Strong on a guided tour in *Royal Gardens*, while Sir John Harvey Jones, the former ICI chairman, will return with a second series of *Troubleshooter*.

Music and arts documentaries include a look back at Kurt Weill's Broadway career, a portrait of Rachmaninov in exile, and profiles of the children's writer Enid Blyton and the crime writer P.D. James.

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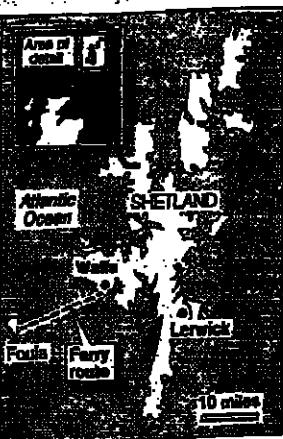
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Shetland Islands

## New clue in kidnap search

The kidnapper of a bank manager's wife is believed to be responsible for an extortion incident at a second bank, police revealed yesterday. Cheshire detectives hunting the bogus policeman who kidnapped Elizabeth Kerr for a £400,000 ransom on August 14 say they have established a firm link with an extortion attempt in the West Midlands a week earlier.

That incident, at a NatWest bank in Solihull on August 7, also featured a demand for money but did not involve a kidnap, police said.

Mrs Kerr, 37, was taken from her home in Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, and kept in the boot of a car while her husband, manager of Barclays in Sale, Greater Manchester, collected and handed over the ransom.

## Fire kills girl

Firemen believe a candle used in the bedroom of a three-year-old girl who hated sleeping in the dark might have caused her death when it set fire to her bedroom. Natalie Godfrey's five-year-old sister Lucy was also badly burnt in the blaze, which broke out after the electricity meter was turned off at their house in Great Chesterford, Essex.

## Theft charge

A former Bank of England worker accused of stealing more than £150,000 from its incineration depot was sent for trial at Southwark Crown Court. Kevin Winwright, of Chelmsford, Essex, was committed on bail by Bow Street magistrates.

## Jury mix-up

A man was about to take his seat on an Old Bailey jury when staff discovered that by coincidence the jury was to hear a burglary charge against his son. The jury panel was discharged and the case transferred to another court.

## Voies counted

Scientists have begun a census of the vole population on Skomer island off the Pembrokeshire coast. Studies are carried out every decade.

## Death in cell

Philip Goulding, 30, accused of murdering his lover at their Stranraer home, was found dead, hanging in his cell at Dumfries prison.

## £400,000 ferry error leaves Scots isle at sea

By KERRY GILL

THE future of Britain's most remote island community has been thrown into doubt because of a blunder that has left the inhabitants without their own island-based ferry service.

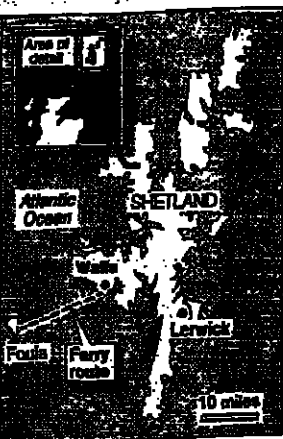
People living on Foula, off the west coast of Shetland, lost their own ferry three years ago when Shetland council promised them a new boat that would be berthed at a £1 million purpose-built pier on the island. Since then they have made do sharing a ferry with the island of Papa Stour to the north.

No one should have been happier than the 42 islanders when they heard that their new vessel, *Westering Homewards*, was about to arrive in Shetland. But the £400,000 ferry had, hardly turned a screw before it was found to be unsuitable for the storm-wracked north Atlantic.

Yesterday, councillors agreed that a ferry should be based at Foula but said the problem was finding a suitable one. They were told that legal action by the council had not been ruled out, though Edward Thomason, the council convenor, refused to say who such action could be taken against. Captain George Sutherland, director of marine services, is to prepare a report on the matter.

The Foula islanders, meanwhile, are enraged. "The old island-based ferry was often our only link with the outside world," said Isabel Holbourn, the islanders' spokeswoman. "You can imagine how we felt when we heard that the *Westering Homewards* would be useless in these waters."

Without a Foula-based boat, mail services have become erratic, livestock has become scarce and grocery supplies have been cut.



Shetland Islands



# Iraqis move warplanes north of 32nd parallel

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN NICOSIA

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein, despite issuing blood-curdling statements on Monday threatening to resist any plan to impose a "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq, has started to move combat aircraft to bases north of the 32nd parallel and out of harm's way.

According to American intelligence reports, the redeployment began at the weekend as Baghdad was declaring its intention to respond militarily to the introduction by America, Britain and France of an air exclusion zone in the South. More than 30 warplanes have been moved north, leaving only about ten inside the prohibited area.

As the Pentagon analysed

the latest intelligence assessments of Iraqi military dispositions in and around the southern marshlands, home to the Shia Muslim rebellion against Saddam's regime, the State Department cautioned Iran not to take advantage of the Western allies' plan.

During the Gulf war, America sent frequent messages to Tehran aimed at reassuring Iran that Washington posed no military threat. No reply has been received yet from President Rafsanjani's government, which has backed with supplies some Shia factions in southern Iraq. Several Arab governments have expressed disquiet over the Western air prohibition plan on the grounds that it risks encouraging the break-up of Iraq and will result in the strengthening of Iran in the region.

The message to Iran was part of Washington's diplomatic effort to calm regional fears. On Monday, Gulf Arab diplomats in Kuwait claimed that an announcement of the "no-fly" zone had been delayed because Arab governments had asked the Western allies to re-think their plan. Bush administration officials denied there had been any slip in the timetable for the announcement agreed between Washington, London and Paris.

Yesterday, Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, said a statement from President Bush on the plan would be made in the next few days. On Sunday, Mr Fitzwater predicted that the ban would be imposed yesterday, but he did say it might take a few days longer.

The redeployment of Iraqi warplanes over the weekend coincided with an increase in attacks by Iraqi troops and helicopters on Shia positions according to the American intelligence reports. Leading Iraqi opposition sources also said yesterday that Iraqi air and heavy artillery attacks were continuing on the Shias in the southern marshes.

The latest reports from inside the marshlands were circulated by Saad Jabr, the son of a former prime minister. They named three villages in the Amara area, al-Misrah, al-Nakara and al-Mahalla, which were "heavily bombed" causing many casualties and forcing their inhabitants to flee into the marshes. The area is just below the 32nd parallel.

The reports, which have not been confirmed, also name three villages in the Nasirya district, al-Jarish, al-Hammur and al-Fuhood, which they said were the target of renewed artillery attack.

In Brussels, the medical relief organisation Médecins sans Frontières said yesterday that about 200,000 civilians have fled the fighting in Iraq and 50,000 of them have to survive in very bad conditions. It added that the refugees have settled in makeshift camps along the road to the city of Mazar-i-Sharif, northwest of Kabul.



Hitting the hungry, starving Somali children at a feeding centre near the town of Baidoa, who became frightened when they learnt there would not be enough food to go around, being beaten with sticks to keep them under control. It was disclosed yesterday that gunmen

seized and killed 11 Somali employees of the Red Cross last week (Our Foreign Staff writes). The men were being taken from Kisumu, whose people are of a different clan from the employees, to a safer area. The US military airlift of food into Somalia is expected to begin on

Friday but UN aid officials still could not say yesterday where the planes would be heading and how aid would be distributed. The C131 Hercules aircraft can only fly to a few airports in the country. Four are in the ports of Mogadishu and Kisumu where food is being

brought in by ship. The others are in the worst-hit areas, at Hoddur, Baidoa, Baidoa and Belet Hiren. Meanwhile, an official of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said yesterday that Sudanese rebels had blocked UN attempts to visit 4,000 refugees taken to southern

Sudan from a camp on the Kenyan border. The agency wanted to find out if the refugees had been abducted or left the camp willingly. Khartoum claims they were kidnapped to swell the ranks of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army.

## Kabul hunt for truce begins

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TWO of the most senior members of Afghanistan's ruling leadership council said yesterday that they would leave Pakistan for Kabul to negotiate a ceasefire between dissident Mujahidin guerrillas and the Afghan president.

Vice-President Muhammad Nabi Mohammadi and Yunus Khalis, leader of a splinter faction of the Hezb-i-Islami party, plan to go to Kabul or its surrounding province today, officials said.

"We want a complete ceasefire and reconciliation between them to establish an Islamic government," the Afghan Islamic Press quoted Mr Khalis as saying. Mr Khalis and the more moderate Mr Mohammadi are members of the leadership council, an uneasy coalition of at least ten Mujahidin parties set up when the Mujahidin took power from the communist government in Kabul.

There was heavy rocket and artillery fire in Kabul yesterday as the renegade Hezb-i-Islami and forces loyal to the Mujahidin Islamic government launched offensives against each other's positions.

The two veteran Mujahidin leaders had received acceptance to a letter sent to President Burhanuddin Rabbani of Afghanistan and to the fundamentalist Hezb leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, also a member of the leadership council who is based south of the city, the official said. "We received a positive reply from every side," the Afghan Islamic Press quoted Mr Khalis as saying.

In Brussels, the medical relief organisation Médecins sans Frontières said yesterday that about 200,000 civilians have fled the fighting in Iraq and 50,000 of them have to survive in very bad conditions. It added that the refugees have settled in makeshift camps along the road to the city of Mazar-i-Sharif, northwest of Kabul.



## Israel hints at concession to Syria on Golan Heights

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

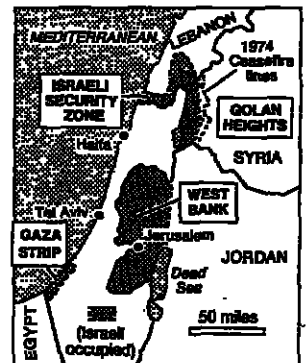
ISRAEL hinted yesterday that it was ready to make some territorial concessions on the strategic Golan Heights captured from Syria 25 years ago.

In an interview with Israel Radio, Shimon Peres, the foreign minister, confirmed that negotiations at the peace talks in Washington would be working on the basis of UN Resolution 242, which calls for withdrawal of Israeli forces from territories captured in the 1967 six-day war.

Asked whether Israel would tell Syria it was ready to withdraw from the plateau, Mr Peres replied: "Israel is saying this way it decided to say this, namely, using the words of resolutions 242 and 338... Israel declares that resolution 242 applies to all fronts."

His comments, although deliberately vague, nevertheless were a radical departure from the previous Likud-led government of Yitzhak Shamir, which insisted that the Jewish state had already met the terms of the resolution by returning the Sinai peninsula to Egypt under the Camp David accords. It resolutely refused to contemplate a withdrawal from the Golan Heights or the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israeli foreign minister gave a warning, however, that at this stage Israel was discussing only "principles not maps" and he urged Damascus not to interpret his comments as meaning Israel was ready to relinquish the Golan, home to 15,000 Israeli settlers and 8,000 Syrian Arabs. "The Syrians should certainly soften



their position; otherwise, they will jeopardise the continuation of the peace negotiations," he said. "It is inconceivable that the Syrians will say that they will start the negotiations after we accept their positions on all issues."

A note of caution was also injected by Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, during a visit to the Palestinian town of Ramallah where he warned both Israelis and Palestinians not to expect any "miracles or short cuts". In particular, he said that in the talks between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators which recovered yesterday the two sides still had fundamental differences on the question of elections in the occupied territories. Israel envisages an administrative council, but Palestinians demand a legislative assembly.

However, he repeated his offer to allow the polls to be held within the coming months. "I would be prepared to propose a target date of April or May 1993 as a date for elections on condition that we determine the stages lead-

ing up to that. For example, by December 1 the electoral system, by January 1 or February 1 an agreement on what we hand over to the administrative council."

Not surprisingly, the comments of the two veteran Labour leaders drew immediate criticism from the opposition right-wing hawk who accused the government of offering the Arab side concessions with nothing in return. "The Israeli negotiators are competing to see who has more concessions in his sack," Ariel Sharon, the hardline former housing minister, told the Knesset.

However, the right wing has failed so far to mobilise a credible campaign against the left-wing coalition, a fact highlighted on Monday when seven opposition Knesset members staged a demonstration march through Arab east Jerusalem, which attracted at most 40 of their supporters.

Right-wing fears were compounded by the announcement yesterday that two dovish Knesset members, Yael Dayan of Labour and Naomi Chazan of the leftist Meretz party, had held a secret meeting in The Hague last week with Nabil Shaath, a Palestinian official. Although such contacts are still banned under Israeli law, Yael Dayan, daughter of the late defence minister Moshe Dayan, said that she held the meeting to show that "there is a majority among the Israeli public and today also in the Knesset as well as among Palestinians and the PLO leadership which speaks the same language".

## Akihito's visit to Peking rules right

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

ANOTHER old Asian enemy fell under Peking's sway yesterday when Japan announced that Emperor Akihito would be making a controversial visit to China in October. The announcement came just a day after China established diplomatic relations with South Korea and caused great satisfaction in Peking, which is eager for trade and investment and has pushed hard for the emperor to come.

The news caused nervousness in Tokyo, where right-wingers have opposed the visit, fearing the emperor may be humiliated by having to apologise for wartime atrocities. A member of Japan's right-wing nationalist fringe reacted soon after the announcement by setting a truck ablaze outside the official residence of Kiichi Miyazawa, the prime minister.

Japanese officials said that Peking had agreed that the emperor would not apologise, but nationalists did not seem reassured. A police spokesman said that a special security commission had been set up to protect public figures from possible terrorist attacks inspired by the news of the trip.

The visit will be the first by a Japanese monarch since the occupation of China, during which an estimated ten million people died. In one of the most infamous episodes of the war, Japanese soldiers murdered some 200,000 civilians in the city of Nanjing. At a camp in Heilongjiang, they carried out biological experiments on Chinese prisoners. Recent polls show that 70

per cent of Japanese are in favour of the visit, which will strengthen relations between the two most important economies in Asia. Right-wingers, however, fear that the emperor, as the son of the wartime Emperor Hirohito, who died in 1989, is vulnerable to Chinese demands for some expression of regret.

Chinese leaders will be sorely tempted to mention the war. It has been a constant source of tension, with Peking repeatedly charging that Japan glosses over its wartime crimes in school textbooks. But the Chinese leadership will not endanger the success of the visit and the economic benefits it could bring by raising such sensitive topics.

Peking relinquished its right to seek war indemnity from Japan in 1972, when relations were normalised. The agreement, however, did not apply to non-governmental organisations or individuals. Early this year, a Chinese intellectual, Tong Zeng, collected signatures from more than 10,000 Chinese war victims in order to press for compensation. Such individual campaigns are usually quashed quickly by Peking, but this one has until now been tolerated — a sign of tacit support.

But Peking is unlikely to allow such campaigners anywhere near the emperor, not least because in the past anti-Japanese feeling has fuelled mass student demonstrations. That is one aspect of Chinese life that the Communist leaders have no intention of showing off to the emperor.

## Beirut asks Speaker not to quit

Beirut: The Lebanese government yesterday called on Hussein Khossini, the parliament Speaker, to withdraw his resignation which he submitted on Monday, alleging that the phase of elections were rigged. He suffered an humiliating defeat from the Iranian-backed Hezbollah fundamentalist group in his Baalbeck constituency (All Jaber writes).

The administration refused to yield to his demand to announce the polls null and void, preferring to wait until this morning, when the final results become available.

## Jet talks held

Moscow: Qin Jiwei, the Chinese defence minister, visiting here, discussed with Pavel Grachev, his Russian counterpart, the possibility of Moscow selling fighter aircraft and other arms to China. They also discussed arms reduction and border security. (Reuters)

## Nine killed

Johannesburg: A South African policeman under investigation for rape shot dead eight people, including five colleagues and a four-year-old girl, before shooting himself dead at a police station and prison complex at Groedemoed, Orange Free State.

## Boat spotted

Singapore: A Taiwanese fishing boat, the Teru 51, fleeing the scene of its collision with a luxury liner on Sunday, was seen steaming north in the South China Sea, a Singapore official said. Malaysia has launched an air and sea search for the vessel. (Reuters)

## Nuclear pact

Mexico City: The French ambassador to Mexico said that France has ratified a protocol of a 1967 treaty that would prohibit the construction or stockpiling of nuclear arms in its territories in Latin America. Britain has also signed the protocol. (Reuters)

## Robot farmers

Tokyo: Japan plans to develop robot farm workers to take the place of people abandoning the land for jobs in cities, an official said. The farming population had dropped from six million households in 1960 to 3.78 million last year. (Reuters)

## Bingo bullets

Sydney: Fierce competition has led Australian television stations to introduce bingo games during their news programmes. Prizes include cars, cash and holidays for the lucky winners whose game card numbers match those shown on screen. (Reuters)

## Grass widow

Bulawayo: A 71-year-old grandmother was fined a token 40 Zimbabwe dollars (\$4) for smoking marijuana in her home. Anne Nwemba said a witness had recommended it in case her husband died.

## Sect leader oversees arranged marriage of 60,000 Moonies

FROM REUTERS IN SEOUL

FORTY thousand people lined up with military precision and chanted wedding vows in unison at Seoul's Olympic stadium yesterday, many of them pledging to love and cherish a virtual stranger. Another 20,000 participated from afar, pledging their vows by satellite link-up across three continents in the largest mass wedding to date arranged by the Unification Church of the Rev Sun Myung Moon.

Clean-shaven, short-haired grooms sweated in the bright sunshine in identical dark suits and red ties. The women, faces hidden behind identical white veils, clutched identical bouquets to their identical white gowns. Thousands stood alone, holding a photograph of their betrothed, separated on their wedding day because of visa or financial problems. The couples are not permitted to consummate the marriage for 40 days.

Mr Moon, wearing a white and gold crown and draped in a flowing gold-edged white gown, presided at the wedding from a podium erected above the couples, who had come from 131 countries. "Do

women who are to consummate the ideal creation of God, pledge to become eternal husband and wife," he asked the crowd. "Yes," went up the roar in different tongues, making one of four responses needed for the four-part wedding vow. The couples, many weeping, exchanged identical wedding rings.

Mr Moon sprinkled water over the 20 couples closest to his podium. Sect officials moved through the crowd on the running track, sprinkling each pair from a small bowl. "Father," they cried as he swept out of the stadium and thousands of doves and multicoloured balloons were released into the sky. "Thank you, thank you," they screamed, their voices echoing off the packed stands. Friends and relatives packed the arena, responding quietly and obediently to instructions to rise and sit.

A few, like the popular Japanese actress, Junko Sakurada, have spent several weeks getting acquainted. But thousands of Moonies wed virtual strangers. "It's hard to explain to a outsider," said

who met his Filipina bride for the first time five days ago. "It's a question of belief."

A church booklet says: "Most church members desire that Rev Moon recommend a marriage partner. Romantic courtship relationships of the sort common among unmarried people in the West are discouraged within the culture of the church."

More than 8,000 couples were paired off by Mr Moon only days ago, mixing and matching photographs of would-be brides and grooms. They trickled into the stadium in pairs, some unable to speak the same language. Hands flew and pencils sketched out ideas as brides and grooms probed for information about the person with whom they would spend the rest of their lives.

Almost half the brides and grooms were Japanese. The messianic Unification movement, which regards Mr Moon as the third Adam completing a task left undone when Jesus was crucified, is strongest in Japan. The South Korean-based church claims to have more than two million

## Odd couple scream their way to court

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AS THE southern states shudder under the fury of Hurricane Andrew, New Yorkers continue to devote most of their attention to a tempest closer to home. The child custody battle between Woody Allen and his former lover the actress Mia Farrow moved yesterday from the pages of every magazine and newspaper in the city to the supreme court in Manhattan.

The latest charge against Allen, that he had brought forward the release date of his new film, *Husbands and Wives*, in order to capitalise on publicity surrounding the case, was splashed across the *New York Post* front page yesterday. The film stars Allen and Farrow and has eerie parallels with the drama being played out in real life. Given the welter of charges and counter-charges of child abuse, blackmail, violence and betrayal, allegations of mere greed may seem like light relief for Allen.

The Manhattan judge, Phyllis Gangel-Jacob, now has the task of unravelling the truth behind the vitriol. Yesterday, lawyers for both parties presented their pre-



Note of anguish: Woody Allen leaving Michael's Pub in New York after his weekly clarinet performance

liminary motions at a pre-trial hearing to set a schedule for later proceedings. As the judge who presided over the marriage break-up between Donald and Ivana Trump, Judge Gangel-Jacob is no stranger to celebrity feuds, but the Allen-Farrow case has achieved an emotional complexity reminiscent of Allen's films, and a melodramatic bitterness worthy of Wagner. Allen has acknowledged

that he is having an affair with Farrow's adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Farrow, who is believed to be about 21, but has denied allegations that he abused his own adopted daughter Dylan, seven. Allen, 56, claims he had no interest in Soon-Yi as a child: "I thought she was going to be a nun," he said.

Allen, in turn, has accused Farrow, 47, his companion of the past 12 years, of being an

abusive and violent mother unfit to retain custody of their three children, two of whom are adopted. Soon-Yi, who was adopted by Farrow and her former husband, the conductor Andre Previn, and who is now living with Allen, says her mother once hit her with a chair and was often abusive. Allen also says Farrow's lawyers tried to blackmail him for \$7 million (£3.5 million) in exchange for suppressing the allegations of abuse.

Both sides say that "much more" will come out in court. As Allen told *Time* magazine, he feels he is "at the centre of a cosmic explosion".

Whether New Yorkers will get to see and hear the second half of the drama has yet to be decided. On Monday, lawyers for both sides asked that film cameras should be banned from the court. Judge Gangel-Jacob ruled that, although other press representatives could attend, radio reporters and television cameras should be banned at yesterday's pre-trial hearing, but she reserved judgment on whether proceedings could be televised at a later date.

"It is a little late for these parties to discover now the virtue of privacy," a spokesman for Court TV said.

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## German politicians demand riot enquiry

# Citizens of Rostock applaud neo-Nazis

By Ian Murray in Rostock and Our Foreign Staff

SKINHEADS are the heroes of the moment among many ordinary people on Rostock's Lichtenhagen estate. Pensioners, housewives, and the unemployed all seem to think the extreme right-wing rowdies have done an excellent job over three days and nights in forcing the authorities to move out more than 200 Romanian gypsies who had been lodged in an 11-storey block of flats while waiting to have their refugee status checked.

Werner Scheffeling, an unemployed shipyard worker, said: "We've been trying to get them out by democratic means for months. We wrote letters to the council complaining about the terrible mess they make. We asked the police to arrest them for camping on the green. We asked for our rent to be reduced because of all the nuisance we had to endure. Nobody listened to us. And then the skins came. They got them out."

He gazed balefully at Sunflower House with its yellow mural and the gutted windows of the hostel that was set alight

has gone up sharply. Women say they are afraid to go home at night for fear of being molested. Everywhere the complaint is that the foreigners have been forced into the community without anything being done to safeguard local people.

In the city's market square yesterday afternoon trade unions held a rally against xenophobia. However, Hans Orzinski remarked: "These people just don't know what they are talking about. It's all very well for these politicians and trade unionists to criticise us but they don't live next door to them. They don't have to put up with the mess."

The offices of a newspaper that first reported that it had received an anonymous phone call from a group claiming to represent the interests of the estate's community and promising to resolve the matter were attacked yesterday. The windows were broken, police believe anarchists may be responsible and fear there could be a clash between them and the skinheads. More riot police were brought in during the afternoon to guard against further trouble.

The neo-Nazis appear to have been extremely well-organised. Only a small group of local skinheads took part in the first demonstration on Saturday evening but the publicity this attracted brought in reinforcements on the next two days from many parts of Germany. Some were using walkie-talkies to issue commands and give tips about police manoeuvres.

The local state parliament is holding an urgent enquiry into what happened, amid criticism that the police failed to do their job properly. Many German politicians demanded an explanation as to why police withdrew from the hotel for around an hour, allowing gangs to storm the evacuated building and set the first floor alight. Herr Scheffeling, on the other hand, is convinced they did their job only too well. "It just

seems wrong to see German police protect foreigners from Germans," he said.

The opposition Social Democrats in Bonn have called for an emergency session of the Bundestag to debate what happened. The party itself is now considering removing its objection to changes in the constitution that would allow asylum-seekers from countries such as Romania to be prevented from entering the country as refugees.

Politicians of all parties condemned the Rostock violence and said it was shameful that the rioters had been cheered on by thousands of local people. Hans-Rolf Goebel, of the Free Democrats, said: "Pictures are going around the world which recall quite a different Germany," a reference to Nazi pogroms against Jews. Norbert Blum, the Christian Democrat labour minister, said: "Germany's reputation is at stake."

Leading article, page 11



Hounded out: a Romanian mother and her children being escorted by police to a bus leaving Rostock after neo-Nazi attacks forced the closure of a refugee hostel

## PEOPLE

## Wife makes call for Honecker release

Margot Honecker, the wife of the former East German leader Erich Honecker, who is imprisoned in Germany's Moabit jail, launched a fervent plea in Chile for his immediate release on legal and humanitarian grounds.

Frau Honecker arrived in Chile to stay with her daughter — who married a former Chilean exile to the then East Germany — on July 31, immediately after Chilean embassy staff handed her husband over to German authorities for trial. In a packed and chaotic press conference scheduled to coincide with Herr Honecker's 80th birthday, she called on "all members of those governments who sustained political relations with my husband, and all those people... who think and feel in a humanistic fashion, to demand his freedom, without limitations".

Charges of soliciting a man for sex have been withdrawn against Australian Anglican Bishop Owen Dowling, 57, a prosecutor said. Bishop Dowling denied a police allegation that he tried to solicit an off-

duty policeman for prostitution at a park in Bendigo, a town in the state of Victoria. The bishop retires at the end of the year.

Romania has asked Hungary to extradite the former communist security police boss Alexandru Draghici, 76, to stand trial on death charges, the justice minister, Mircea Ionescu-Quintus, said.

John Mario Paul, 25, a Haitian journalist who was imprisoned and tortured by the country's military rulers, has won a 1992 "Freedom to Write Award" from Pen, the worldwide writers' association, in New York. The award was presented to him by Marianne Wiggins, the American novelist and former wife of Salman Rushdie, the British author in hiding after Iranian death threats.

Abbas Hamadi, 32, one of two Lebanese brothers jailed in Germany on terrorism charges, may be freed by Christmas, his doctor said.



early yesterday when the police left the scene after 20 hours of sporadic battles with the youths.

Rosa, a plump middle-aged housewife, said: "We are not racist. We don't hate foreigners. We just hate people who urinate on the stairways."

The story is the same all around from the local citizens who cheered and applauded as the skinheads fought running battles with the police and hurled abuse and stones at the Romanian gypsies in the hostel.

In the supermarket nearby they complain that shopping

## Georgians threaten onslaught

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

A GEORGIAN commander has threatened to launch an onslaught today on the separatist Abkhazian community's forces unless Vladimir Ardzba, their leader, steps down.

The threat to attack Gudauta, which has become the Abkhazian headquarters since Georgian troops entered the northwestern region of the republic in force on August 14, may be intended to preempt the arrival of volunteers from southern Russia to back the separatist cause. The ultimatum was made by Colonel Gia Karkarashvili after two soldiers were shot during an exchange of prisoners.

Thousands of fighters from the warrior races that inhabit the northern slopes of the Caucasus mountains are signing up to invade Georgia and reverse moves by Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, to assert control over the coastal region, according to local warlords. Abkhazian fighters also claim to have killed more than 40 Georgian soldiers in two days of fighting around Sukhumi and Gagra.

The Confederation of Mountain Peoples of the Caucasus, a shadowy year-old alliance between the small Muslim regions in the extreme south of Russia, has declared Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, a disaster area and threatens to launch a campaign of terrorism there. A document signed by the confederation's leaders, and published in yesterday's Russian press, ordered all local chiefs in the northern Caucasus to send fighters and "repel the aggressor" in Abkhazia. It said all ethnic Georgians living in the semi-independent regions of southern Russia forming the confederation should be viewed as hostages.

The strength of the confederation's forces is hard to assess, but its threats have caused alarm in Tbilisi. Mr Shevardnadze has said that the elections planned for October 11 may be imperilled.

The threats are also causing concern in Russia. If Moscow proves unable to stop the Muslim regions from taking military action against Georgia, that could set an ominous precedent for other regions of Russia which are straining at the leash.

## Russians on road to envy

Charwomen are lusting hopelessly for Western cars, writes Mary Dejevsky

IN A northern suburb of Moscow, deep in the forest of ornamental structures that make up the old Soviet Union's defunct Exhibition of Economic Achievements, is hidden a glass and concrete building that for a few brief days this week will be a temple to that very Western god, the motor car.

This is the first international motor show in Moscow, surrounded with all the customary razzmatazz of its Western counterparts, and exhibiting the prize models of most Western producers. It is not, however, the first motor show ever held in Russia. Strictly speaking, it is the fifth: the fourth was held in St Petersburg in 1913, and the first in 1907, and the organisers are proud to think they are reviving a tradition and returning Russia to the world.

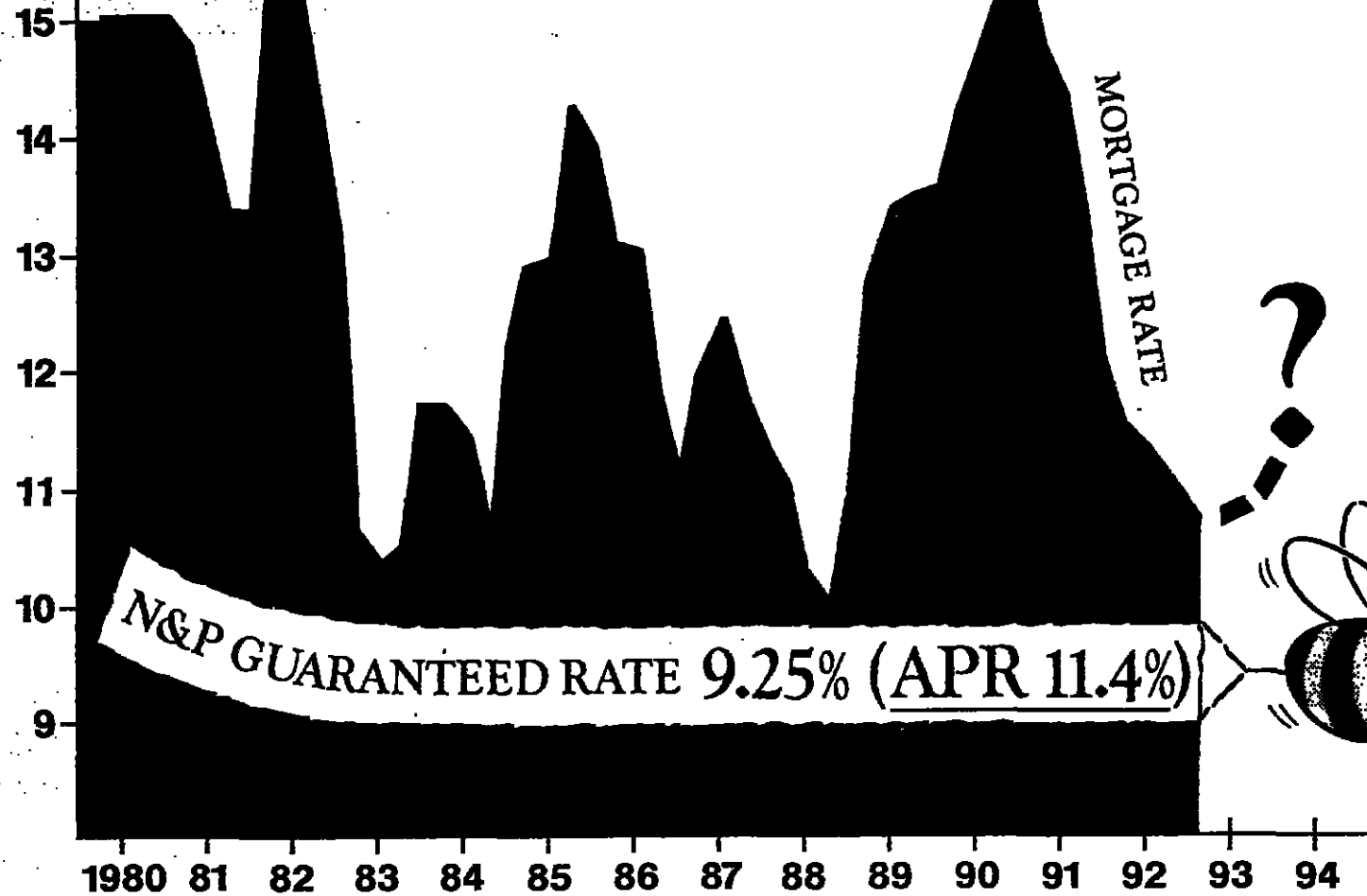
Yesterday, the day before the official opening, wide-eyed Russian construction workers and even wider-eyed Russian cleaning ladies wandered in a dream world of blue carpets, soft Western rock music, and sleek, shiny Western cars. "If only, if only, I could have one of those just for a moment," said one of the cleaners. "But there's not a hope."

With a price of \$29,000 (£14,500) for a second-hand Mercedes, more than 60 times the average annual salary, most Russians will have to be content with looking. There will be buyers, however, individuals, joint venture companies. The number of new Mercedes and Volvos with Russian registration plates has increased in the past year from almost nothing to several hundred.

L&T section, page 4

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## Texts for bad times

Michael Wright on a thrifty trend to bargain paperbacks

Just now times may be hard, but they are not half so hard as they were in 1935 when Allen Lane launched his pioneering series of Penguin paperbacks. People do not buy books in recessions. Oh, they browse, they re-read, they borrow. But they rarely part with the spindulicks: not unless the book is dirt cheap. And Penguins, at a mere sixpence each, were just that. They were revolutionary.

Now comes another recession, and with it another revolution. This time it is classic fiction at a quid a throw. In other words, *A Christmas Carol* is cheaper than most greetings cards and Joyce's *Dubliners* will set you back less than a pint of Guinness. Last year Dover began to bring out its Thrift editions for a dollar apiece (95p in Britain), and last month Wordsworth Classics started churning out hefty tomes for just a pound. It is not as if paperback classics were inaccessible expensive before. On the contrary, the reader has been well served by the likes of Penguin Classics, World's Classics, and Everyman Paperbacks, which between them offer an eclectic range of titles that no bucket-shop publisher relying on massive print-runs could hope to match.

These big boys are battling it out for domination of a growing student market, relying on the heavy artillery of their erudite introductions and the small-arms fire of their "Notes on the Text". But when it comes to "soft classics" — your Jane Austens, your Hardy's and your Brontës — the pound-a-time people are beginning to mop up, offering texts that are no more or less reliable than those of their competitors, at a fraction of the cost, and without all the critical material.

All too often, the introductions, notes and bibliographies offered in paperback classics do more harm than good, alienating the general reader with a dusty-dusty whiff of academe, holding out a false sense of "this is all you need to know" security to the A-level nail-biter, while falling short of the depth required by the serious student.

As Paul Keegan, editorial director of Penguin Classics, puts it, "We've become over-protective, applying a kind of National Trust conservatism to the classics which can often seem ridiculous. Classics publishing has become set in certain ritualistic procedures which don't necessarily bear any relation to anything. Most people start reading a book, and if they like it, they'll read it. They don't need contextualisation, they don't need to be led by the hand. I think there is no need for introductions at all. And notes are uniformly done badly."

Such honesty is reassuring after listening to the adamant certainties of other editorial directors, that students simply could not do without the critical baggage shovelled out for them. They dismiss the possibility of the new super-cheap editions posing much threat to their market share. "Our proper editions won't try to compete with theirs," declares Hilary Laurie at Everyman. "And do booksellers want to sell books for a pound?"

David Taylor, buying and marketing manager for Blackwell's, clearly does. "As far as we're concerned, anything that makes people buy and read more books has got to be a good thing." The sales figures for Wordsworth Classics are certainly convincing, with more than 700,000 copies already sold, and sold fast. In Yorkshire, for instance, 4,000 copies of *Wuthering Heights* went in two days. That's not bad going for a book that has already been on the market for 145 years.

As peace talks begin in London, two writers ask if there is hope of the West finding a solution

# No end to a Balkan disaster

Arming Bosnia may prolong the war but produce a just outcome

Peace conferences are grand events. The food is usually excellent (the menus from Versailles in 1918 are collector's items) and the conversation is rarely boring. The London talks on the future of Yugoslavia should therefore have made for an interesting spectacle, as butchers, victims and diplomats sit down at the same table. But the likelihood is that it will be merely a series of poorly digested dinners and tantrums rather than deals.

The reason is that peace conferences should occur at the end of war, at a point of exhaustion and surrender. This one is being staged in the thick of war, and some of the participants have barely had time to put on a clean shirt. The Serbs are smug, having captured 70 per cent of Bosnia. The Croats still consider themselves in a state of war; they too have grabbed Bosnian land and are planning ways to retake the territory they lost to Serbia last year. The Bosnian Muslims have launched a counter offensive and are searching the arms bazaars of the Arab world for new weapons. This is hardly a basis for peace: more of a half-time break.

The optimists say that since Serbia's appetite has been sated, it will now stop fighting. Since Serbian aggression started the war, there is now scope for ending it: the UN can be installed to keep the guns silent and protect minorities.

The Muslims can be persuaded to use diplomacy to regain some of their lost territory.

The pessimists argue that the London conference is doomed to legitimise the carve-up of Bosnia Herzegovina, that there is no other formula than "land for peace". Such a peace, however, would be illusory and would merely fuel further war. The Muslim fighters are moving into high gear: they are being robbed not only of land, but of their state. And even if the guns were to fall silent, Serbia would soon face a fresh war against the Albanians of Kosovo.

This is what the pessimists say, and they have already been proved right several times during this war. That does not mean a thirty years' war is inevitable, but it is important to listen to the pessimists and draw quick conclusions. Again and again European and UN diplomacy has been wrong-footed by events in the Balkans. Should we have recognised Croatia and Slovenia more quickly? Should we have recognised them separately, forcing Zagreb first to make concessions to the Serb minority? Almost every step taken by the West has come too late. Sanctions were imposed on Serbia after giving it three months or more to build up stocks. Western military intervention was not threatened in April — when it might have stopped the Serbian advance in Bosnia — but is

suggested now, in August, when the Serbs have already snatched what they want. There is no point in attacking now unless as part of a full-scale war against Serbia.

With all three parties — Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia — on a war footing, diplomacy is condemned to failure. There are some useful humanitarian tasks to accomplish, such as feeding and sheltering the two million refugees during the winter, and the conference will score a limited success if it can win a measure of protection for these hapless victims, but the best the diplomats can hope to do at the moment is to ameliorate the symptoms of war, and to lower the level of violence by a UN presence.

The UN has not been very successful in Croatia — where it "protects" three disputed regions — and is even less useful in Bosnia.

Far from welcoming the blue helmets, the residents of Sarajevo are profoundly angry with them. The popular perception is that they squat in their white armoured vehicles and do nothing when ten yards away a sniper shoots down yet another housewife.

An expanded UN trusteeship taking over the whole of Bosnia might just work, but by the time it was established, financed and authorised by the world community, the Serbs might well have completed their ethnic cleansing and carried the war elsewhere.

The great advantage of a UN "solution" to the Bosnian war is that everybody could promptly forget about the Balkans, shifting their attention again to Maas-tricht, and grumble when the UN

bill arrived. The UN option, however, is a substitute for real political decisions. Indeed some Croats call it "the aspirin solution", little more than a cure for a headache. The choice for the West is plain: do we allow Bosnia Herzegovina to be chopped up, in the hope that this will keep the Serbs and the Croats quiet or do we help Bosnia to regain its state, which has after all been recognised by the European Community and the United States? The morally correct decision is obvious, but nobody in the West has a taste for war on behalf of Bosnia.

Yet there is another possibility: to supply weapons and instructors quickly to Bosnia. Both Britain and America have expressed qualms about this, arguing that there are already too many weapons in the region. But the point is to give Bosnia the opportunity to fight for itself. The UN arms embargo currently bars any such deliveries. A decision to re-arm Bosnia, as Lady Thatcher has suggested, would be a gamble

needing firm leadership and no quibbles.

Arming Bosnia would certainly prolong the war, but it would also increase the chances of a just conclusion and demonstrate that the West will resist all attempts to change frontiers by force. And since it would save our soldiers, it would satisfy those who are presently arguing that we should forget the Balkans. Arming the Bosnians, say diplomats, is "controversial", but it is no more so than the *sub rosa* financing, training and arming of the Muslim rebels in Afghanistan.

President Alija Izetbegovic will be asking for guns at the London talks. If the West turns him down he will certainly turn to Iran and other Middle Eastern states. The West must tell the Serbian leadership that unless ethnic cleansing ends immediately, it will supply weapons to Bosnia. This may not sound like the conciliatory phraseology of a peace conference, but the fact is that there is no peace. The war rages on and the time has come to take sides. There is already blood on the tablecloth.

ROGER BOYES

## Will the West dare to fight?

Without a clear strategy, pious censure of Serbia means nothing

The Western delegates at today's international peace conference on the Yugoslav crisis have an unenviable task. After a succession of broken ceasefires, ineffective EC troikas and inconclusive conferences under the chairmanship of Lord Carrington, not to mention thousands of dead and hundreds of thousands "ethnically cleansed", few can be optimistic that the conference will do anything to reconcile the bitter opponents in the Balkan war. So far, calling the conference has exacerbated the crisis, encouraging the Serbs to consolidate into a *fait accompli* what they have conquered and "cleansed", and pushing the Bosnian government into a counter-attack to give credence to its claims to represent a viable entity.

The Yugoslav participants may be forgiven for wondering what it is that their hosts want from them. Western leaders such as George Bush and John Major have deplored the violence in Yugoslavia, but they have wavered over what they consider to be a solution and what they might contribute to it. At first, America and the European Community seemed united in opposing Slovene and Croatian secession from Yugoslavia. In the distant days of June and July 1991, the decaying Soviet colossus

still struggled to preserve its unity and President Bush did not want to precipitate its collapse by endorsing Balkan disintegration.

Mr Bush's foreign policy has been underpinned by a doctrine committing the West to uphold the status quo. Hence he was not prepared to see Iraq disappear from the map, even though he had fought to restore Kuwait. But the Yugoslav crisis has thwarted his conservative instincts. Greater Serbia is as much a novelty as poor Bosnia, and a great deal more destabilising. Saddam Hussein's threat to the stillborn New World Order was that of the classic tyrant conqueror: while Slobodan Milosevic is the model of a post-communist threat: he has demonstrated the unhappy *nomenklatura* around the globe how to survive the collapse of communism and prosper.

Much is made of how confusing the successive wars have been in the Balkans: it is difficult to know whose side we should be on, and easy for us to forget after the neat divisions of the Cold War that this state of confusion usually reigned in the past, not least in the 1930s. Aggressors rarely lack for arguments to support their actions. Western diplomats have always been on hand to retail them to their governments, and the victim

of aggression is rarely self-evidently saintly: Poland was not a haven of democracy or racial tolerance in 1939, but it certainly was by comparison with Nazi Germany. In 1935, was it not possible that Haile Selassie's half-naked tribesmen had provoked Mussolini's tanks and bombers?

Even in 1938, voices were raised about the boorish behaviour of the Czechs towards the Sudeten Germans, who in any case had a "democratic" right to join up with Nazi Germany if that is what they wanted. Sixty years ago, conferences were held and the League of Nations passed resolutions imposing arms embargoes on both aggressor and victim. Aggressors, however, always find friends, anxious to curry favour and deflect their ambitions, and willing to help bypass sanctions.

Today's sanctions-breakers are motivated partly by profit and partly by sympathy with Mr Milosevic, but also by fear of what the Serbian army might do next. They have seen the ease with which a few gunmen and their spokesmen can create a minority-rights issue out of a peaceable group of neighbours.

The siren voices who urge inaction on the West and base their case on an appeal to Balkan history have added to the confusion: they talk gibberish of age-old tribal wars and recall with approval the days when the jingoes in this country sided with the Sultan's bashi-bazooks in the 1870s and were prepared to fight for the Ottoman Empire.

No policy of active involvement in a war is without great risk, particularly when the war has

been allowed to build up as much momentum as the current Balkan war. But to stand aside from the shambles in Bosnia invites further trouble, and not just in the Balkans. Unlike the decaying Ottoman Empire of a century ago, which could still deal cruelly with its subjects but did not threaten its neighbours, Serbia's rulers and the nationalist passions they have stoked up and directed are hardly likely to be sated by success. Those in the Foreign Office who hope that Mr Milosevic will calm down now he has most of what he wants are naive. His regime depends for its survival on finding new enemies to justify its existence and to silence internal opposition.

Throughout the world, not least in the former Soviet Union, the West's passivity in the face of Serbian conquests has been

watched with astonishment. The West's toleration of such violence on the very borders of the EC does not encourage faith in its commitment to the authority of international law further afield.

For 18 months, President Bush has dithered about whether Iraq's survival as a state is more important than toppling Saddam Hussein's regime, complete with its ethnic cleansing programme. The uncertainty that has marked Western policy in dealing with the collapse of Yugoslavia, and its unwillingness to bring to bear its overwhelming power to impose a solution puts temptation in the path of others faced by challenges to their power and privileges from ethnically divided populations.

Had today's conference been for Nato and its Pacific-rim allies alone, it might have been much more useful. They should sit down together and work out what they wish to achieve, not only in Yugoslavia but throughout the world, and should agree a programme and on how to share out the costs in money and blood. Until the West is ready for action, pious denunciations of ethnic cleansing or military aggression will mean nothing. Until the West has worked out its aims and a clear strategy to achieve them, peace conferences will be an expensive diversion, providing merely a comfortable vantage point from which to watch the business of war and conquest.

MARK ALMOND

The author is a fellow of the Institute for European Defence and Strategic Studies, London.



Peace has no chance: Serbian aggression as seen by Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

## ...and moreover ALAN COREN

To gentlemen in England now abed, the nub of this whole tacky business is doubtless the possibility that it may well have given a terminal shake to the foundations of the House of Windsor; but let me tell them that, up here in the shellshocked Riviera, many another hitherto sturdy edifice is winning as its bright stucco cracks and the Provencal tiles slide from its roof. For this time, it is we out here who think ourselves accursed, especially if we do not hold our manhoods cheap.

Or, indeed, hold them at all. Now, my own current premises lie just a few miles along the azure coast from, if I may be permitted to switch Elizabethans, those topless towers where sweet Fergie was recently making herself immortal with a kiss, and while they may not be quite as swish as those which attracted the attention of the *Daily Mirror's* property correspondent, they do boast a delightful swimming pool surrounded by comfy loungers which — though a brace of fleshy rompers might find themselves sinking slowly groundwards to the accompaniment of a somewhat unromantic hiss — are more than adequate for the solo sunbather. Furthermore, the spot is secluded by oleander and bougainvillea, and the nearest houses lie half a mile away, across the valley.

And now, a word or two about breakfast. Every morning, exemplary host that I am, I leap up as the first cicada salutes the rising sun, and run down to the village to buy croissants for the still-smorning household. English guests all, they cry that that is one of the great things about France, mmm, fresh croissants, mmm, delicious... they then nibble a corner, scattering the rest into a thousand flakes which float down so that a million waiting ants, having formed fours in the garden in anticipation of a scent on the breeze, may begin marching into the house with the unerring precision of the Waffen SS, thereby giving me the opportunity to spend much of the rest of the day fruitfully engaged with aerosol and dustpan instead of frittering it away by the pool.

I do not mind this at all, because of the two joyous bonuses which go with croissant-fetiching. The first is that I am early enough to get my hands on one of the handful of English newspapers which dawn brings to our local shop, and the second is that I can get back home in time not only to have my morning swim but thereafter to dry off on a floating li-lo, reading the paper before the mob have had the chance to reduce it to a tattered wodge made illegible by a combination of sun-oil and the dismembered parts of large swatted things which seem always to have their clogs popped in the middle of particularly crucial paragraphs.

And moreover, the most exquisite element of all is that the swim is nude. I do not intend to bang on anent the components of that exquisiteness, but I would

just say that it is not exclusively sensual: pottering naked through dawn-dappled water not only puts the swimmer in pantheistic touch with darting lizard and rising lark, it allows him an atavistic glimpse of that brief pre-lapsarian time before the snake shattered down the tree and brought bathing trunks into the world.

At last, it did! Last Monday, last Monday, I hurried home with croissants and *The Sunday Times*, stripped off, hurried myself into the pool, and dived. I was lying on my back, and the air bed and the news from home. And where would the expatriate first turn for this but to the "News Review" section? And where but there would he see two photographs demonstrating what may be done with what the caption described as an 800mm lens with a 2x converter? And what would he do then? He would immediately put *The Sunday Times* to a use for which it was not primarily designed. For by turning his head a fraction, he could see the hill-top houses half a mile away, and suddenly half a mile was a very short distance indeed. And who could say where Daniel Angeli might be today, telephoto in one hand, cellphone in the other? I cannot of course estimate my value, my line to the throne is somewhat tenuous, but every man has his price, and who can be sure that a great professional like Signor Angeli would turn his nose up at ten bob from the *Cricklewood Weekly Advertiser*?

## Corridors of embarrassment

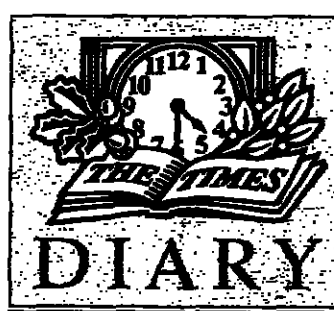
EVEN before John Major and Boutros Boutros Ghali open today's Yugoslav peace talks, there is an ominous possibility that the leaders of the warring factions will have already had their first falling out.

The Foreign Office has left each delegation to make its own accommodation arrangements, raising the distinct possibility that those seeking to exterminate each other back in the Balkans could find themselves in neighbouring hotel rooms in London.

Many of the delegations are staying at the Carlton Tower Hotel, the most popular venue during Lord Carrington's London peace talks last month. Then there were some difficult moments as leaders not officially on speaking terms kept bumping into each other in the hotel lifts.

Dr Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs, is not taking that chance, and has booked into the Langham, Hilton instead. "Being more publicity conscious than most, I suspect that decision is motivated by the fact the BBC studios are only a two minute walk away," said one candid aide. Karadzic has only observer status at the conference, but still plans to get his message across. From the comfort of his specially equipped £2 million Lear jet, complete with its new state of the art communications centre, he had faxed a personal letter to all 650 British MPs, even before landing.

Yet despite the public posturing and the bloodshed back home, the leaders of the warring factions appear to get on much better privately than they are prepared to let on. Last time around, Mate Boban, the Croat former supermar-



ket manager who has proclaimed western Herzegovina as the independent state of Herceg-Bosna, met with his arch-enemy Milan Panic (prime minister of the rump of Yugoslavia) and Karadzic at the Savoy. Panic asked: "How can I stop these thugs running around Bosnia and Herzegovina?" Boban responded: "You can start by arresting all of us." The three chuckled and ordered drinks all round.

One who is taking a keen interest in the Yugoslav peace talks from his Scottish estate near Nairn is Lord Campbell of Croy. His *Nachbar in Not* (Neighbour in Need) scheme was highlighted in this column recently and has so far raised £15,000 for refugees fleeing to Austria from the Balkans. "The money raised is largely due to the kindness of readers of *The Times*," he says. "We are most grateful."

## Chain mail

MILITARY strategy, superior technology and good luck are probably required in equal measure to win a war, and Whitehall's top brass is taking no chances. For more than three months, a chain letter has been circulating in the ministry of defence, demanding that recipients forward it to five friends if they wished to remain healthy and wealthy. No one, it seems, has

yet dared to break the chain. Among those who have signed the letter and sent it on are General Sir Peter de la Billière, Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine, Air Marshal Sir William Wratten, Brigadier Jeremy Phipps and Alan Thomas, head of defence export services. Most have appended short messages along the line of "I don't believe this superstitious nonsense but..."

One participant, who must remain anonymous, wrote: "I pass this on in the divine belief that my luck will be blonde."

By the end of last month, the letter had begun circulating in the Northern Ireland Office, although it has not yet reached Downing Street or the Treasury. Perhaps someone had better add them to the chain double quick.

## Republic of letters

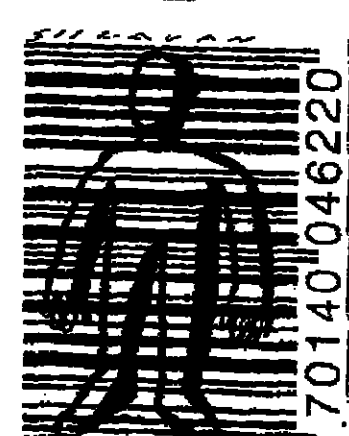
DIANA said: "Poor Charles." Fitzroy said: "Yeah, you must be lonely without him, I expect?" Their eyes met for a split second, but it was long enough for them both to know that Diana was not going to be too lonely. There would be compensations. Diana blossomed...

No, not another mystery royal tape, but a passage from Sue Townsend's latest novel, *The Queen and I*, a timely tale of the downfall of the House of Windsor, due to be published next month. In the book, the nation turns against the royal family who are stripped of their stately homes and rehoused in a couple of two-bedroomed council houses in the Midlands. The Queen Mother is allocated a pensioner's bungalow while Charles ends up in prison charged with affray and assaulting a police officer.

Unsurprisingly, perhaps, Townsend is lying low, but her agent, Robert Kirby, yesterday said: "There was no intention for

the book to coincide with the royal scandals. It is a happy accident." Kirby insists the book is "a bit of fun", and while other writers might have had trouble, "everyone knows Sue's style from the *Adrian Mole* books."

Yet already the book, and in particular the passage describing the demise of the Queen Mother and her deathbed confession that she never wanted to marry George VI, have failed to arouse at least one patriotic fellow author. Dame Barbara Cartland says: "I think it is appalling. It is so degrading and so wrong. It is low and common and vulgar. If we are not careful we will not have a monarchy at all. Then we would have someone like George Bush every five years, and I couldn't bear that."



The ultimate recession hand-book is published in the *United States* next month: *Sell Yourself to Science* — The Complete Guide to Selling Your Organs, Body Fluids, Bodily Functions and Being Human Guinea Pig. There was a time when such practices were restricted to Third World countries. Bill Clinton will surely be asking whether George Bush's America has really stooped so low.

501 من الاصل





## ECHOES OF NAZISM

Any German should be deeply ashamed of the attacks by 1,000 neo-Nazi skinheads on a hostel for Romanian Gypsy refugees in the former East German town of Rostock. The racist violence, the chanting of "Germany for the Germans" and the cheering by onlookers are reminiscent of the anti-semitic frenzy of the Hitler days. Gypsies were also racial victims of the Holocaust.

More shocking still is tolerance verging on support for the demonstrators by the local authorities. Their suggestion that the uncontrolled influx of foreigners had "released aggression in their German neighbours" evokes the worst encouragement of fanaticism. As shocked German ministers now admit, Germany's postwar reputation for liberal hospitality is at stake and action is urgently needed to protect it.

The incident, the worst in a series of ugly attempts to intimidate asylum-seekers, underlines the need both to limit the flood of new asylum-seekers and to protect those now in Germany. Last year there were 990 attacks on foreign refugees, including the fire-bombing of Third World hostels, murders and assaults. This was three times the total in 1990. The number of new refugees has grown from 250,000 to 400,000 a year, and may soon top half a million.

The growth of racism has been shown in the rise of the far right. Anti-immigration parties are now represented in three of Germany's 16 states. There are 38,000 members of groups devoted to the memory of Hitler. The Office for the Protection of the Constitution says the far right is now a greater threat than the Red Army Faction and the extreme left.

Racism is a scapegoat for economic hardship that needs little encouragement. Most attacks have occurred in former East Germany, where unification has brought soaring unemployment, social malaise and anguish over the future. In Rostock unemployment is running at 17 per cent. Unlike West Germany, the former communist government not only pretended that racism did not exist, but it did nothing to

ensure the right lessons were drawn from the Nazi period.

Helmut Kohl's government has long said that Germany's excessively liberal asylum laws were leading to social unrest that would be ever harder to control. He proposed a change in the constitution that would set tougher criteria for entry and thus discourage the wave of economic refugees who make for Germany from all over eastern Europe because they know it is the easiest European country to enter. The Social Democrats refused to cooperate, denying the government the two-thirds majority needed for a constitutional change. Some may have been playing politics; most were acting in good faith, believing that Germany, because of its past, has a special duty to show compassion.

The chancellor therefore proposed an acceleration of the processing of refugees, partly to get them out of the hostels that have become targets, partly to stop them remaining indefinitely, having avoided early eviction. He also wanted the European Community to take responsibility for a common immigration policy, to enable him to change the constitution by pleading international necessity against the social democrats.

The SPD has now conceded that its present stance is hurting the refugees and damaging German tolerance. The chances of tightening the laws in the wake of the recent attacks look brighter than before. Some 86 per cent of Germans questioned in a recent poll express abhorrence of racist attacks, but this is clearly not enough to encourage the authorities to confront the skinheads who carry them out.

Germany's neighbours cannot cast stones. They do not have half a million people of widely differing cultural backgrounds pouring in each year. But with up to two million victims of the ethnic cleansers of Bosnia soon looking for foreign refuge, Germany can no longer be the open haven of the past quarter century. The country has clearly reached the limits of its tolerance. Here is a good cause for the rest of Europe to espouse collectively.

## LIFE ASSURANCE RACKET

A doctor who prescribed useless drugs because he was bribed by the drug company would deserve to be struck off. Yet in the investment of life savings, an area as vital to happiness as health, bad advice is all too common and rarely goes punished.

Today *The Times* reports on the problems of people being sold certain life assurance policies. They are charged such high fees and commissions that if they surrender them early, they lose most or all of their money. They are sold policies that are often quite unsuitable by advisers who profit from the commissions the insurance companies pay.

Even independent financial advisers, who are supposed to have the best interests of their customers at heart, are often reluctant to advise them to leave their money on deposit in a bank or building society. They are more likely to recommend one of the many insurance-linked savings schemes in order to earn themselves commission.

The position of tied agents is even more pernicious. They can sell only the savings products of one company. A customer soliciting their advice will inevitably be pushed towards one product, which may be less attractive and more expensive than others on the market and totally unsuitable to the customer's circumstances. In a survey last year, the Securities and Investments Board found that between a quarter and third of life assurance holders terminated their policies within two years of signing up.

Because commission and fees are charged almost entirely at the beginning of the policy, people who surrender early lose almost all the money they have paid in. The salesmen themselves are paid most of their commission when the policy is first signed, so they have little financial incentive to ensure that the product suits the client.

Since the new regime of self-regulation was introduced in 1988, the opposite of what was intended has happened. Competition

has fallen, commissions have risen and value for money is worse. Independent financial advisers have found it more lucrative to become tied agents. Their market share was 47 per cent in 1989; it dropped to 38 per cent in 1990 and more people expect it to stabilise at around 25 per cent.

Commissions are now between a quarter and a half as large again as the old maximum commission that was abolished. It is still hard for consumers to discover exactly how much commission they will be charged. The ideal solution would be for them to pay a standard fee for independent advice. Advisers would then be in the same position as an accountant, a lawyer or a doctor: beholden to no-one and with only the interests of the client at heart.

The British balk at paying for financial advice, even though they already do so in the form of commission, which is disguised. Transparency is what is needed. Regulators should force companies to disclose their commissions and should then publish league tables of commission charges and of performance. They should also publish the policy termination rates of different companies.

Unfortunately, the regulators show no sign of introducing the sort of firmer regulation that would encourage transparency and competition. Because the industry polices itself, this is not surprising. SIB and Lauro (the life assurance regulator) have proposed revised rules for the selling of life assurance, which are presently being considered by the Office of Fair Trading. But they simply tinker with a system of self-regulation which, because of its conflicts of interest, cannot work in the best interests of the consumer.

The OFT should reject the proposals and suggest instead that the Treasury introduce far tougher regulation, in which the public interest is preferred to that of the commission-earner and in which the hard-won savings of ordinary people cannot be abused.

## FUNDING FESTIVALS

A fascinating conundrum is supplied by today's report of the Policy Studies Institute into arts festivals. It found that they were booming. Scarcely a city or town in Britain does not boast a festival. The number has doubled since 1980 to 527, with a total turnover of over £40 million. They are now important tourism draws, so much so that organisers are becoming concerned at the proliferation of the competition. Audiences are rising, visitors are enthusiastic, and voluntary support from both artists and organisers continues to be forthcoming.

Festivals are not merely vehicles for local talent with safe programmes. The researchers found that a third of the festivals commission new work. Many, from Edinburgh and Aldeburgh to the most modest local arts weekend, are of real artistic distinction. Most make use of both professional and amateur artists and all are a lively focus of community activity. The arts festival may be easy to satirise, but it suggests a British grassroots renaissance, the arts on display at the point of sale, culture at its most customer-friendly.

Yet respondents to the PSI survey, rather than glory in their public success, bemoan their lack of public subsidy. The organisers demand more financial support from central and local government. Half the festivals report themselves to be in deficit. They welcome their current expansion but appear to feel that the state, rather than booming audiences, should finance their continued growth. Are they justified in their demand?

The question of how much arts subsidy should be spent on activity outside London is an eternally delicate one. Those who have

asked it, as did the Arts Council in the 1980s, were exasperated. No arts minister, certainly not the present one, will want the odium of asking it again, let alone answering it in favour of the provinces and their arts festivals. The big London institutions take the lion's share of subsidy; thus it has been ordained by Whitehall and thus it will remain.

The glory of the festivals is that, despite the perils of recession, they need not involve themselves in the subsidy debate. It is the fact that they have been demand-led that has clearly underpinned their success in the 1980s. Their programmes must reflect what their audiences — and to an extent their participants — want. Their venues, a constant source of worry to them, are likely to be whatever is available locally: churches, schools, warehouses, even tents on the common, not expensive purpose-built halls. As the report says, a festival is meant to "attract sections of the population that other arts promoters have failed to reach." For this reason, many are moving away from the traditional fare of classical music.

The excitement of a local festival lies in its freedom, in its scope to do the unexpected — and if it fails, to fail cheaply. The hundreds of thousands who attend such festivals each year may be more deserving recipients of the Arts Council's support than the big London companies. But as with amateur art, another flourishing but subsidy-deprived field of the arts in Britain, it is more likely that festivals flourish because of the absence of public subsidy than because of its presence. At the very least the arts minister should give them a generous pat on the back.

## Whose hand on the economy?

From Mr David Howell, MP for Guildford (Conservative)

Sir, If any more proof were needed, recent events surely confirm beyond doubt the case for an independent monetary authority in Britain.

As your shrewd editorial ("Crisis? What crisis?", August 24) observes, there is no sterling crisis. Yet something approaching a lynch mob has been gathering against the Chancellor for even daring to consider higher interest rates as a short-term response to a short-term problem with origins elsewhere in the international financial system.

How much more sensible it would be if the lead was taken on monetary adjustment problems of this sort not by Treasury ministers but by a strong Bank of England, acting as the central monetary authority.

We would then be rid of the notion that monetary policy can be pushed this way and that by political voices or axe-grinding professors. That would surely be much fairer on the Chancellor and much better for sterling's reputation.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID HOWELL,  
House of Commons.  
August 24.

From Mr Leolin Price, QC

Sir, Either the exchange-rate mechanism is not working or it is working against us.

The Bundesbank, understandably in its role as Germany's central bank, is concerned to act in what it perceives as Germany's interests. Distinguished economists tell us that the present exchange-rate troubles amount to a crisis centred in Germany; but, even if the German government were to suggest to the Bundesbank that there is urgent need for policy changes affecting monetary policy and the Deutschmark, the Bundesbank's vaunted independence would permit it to reject every such suggestion.

The lessons are first, that ERM is a straitjacket from which we must escape; secondly, that a central bank's independence is unacceptably dangerous. The creation of a constitutionally irresponsible body with such power should commend itself only to arrogant elitists who instinctively favour giving power to clever bureaucrats.

Yours truly,  
LEOLIN PRICE,  
10 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.  
August 25.

From Professor A. P. Thirlwall

Sir, In the 1980s, when Nigel Lawson was Chancellor of the Exchequer, it was fashionable for government to say that the current account of the balance of payments doesn't matter and there is nothing special about manufacturing industry compared to service activities. Those of us who argued otherwise were regarded as economic dinosaurs, out of touch with current thinking.

Now, with the currency increasingly fragile, manufacturing industry continuing its relentless decline and the balance of payments still in massive deficit despite two years of negative growth, would any of the trendy economists and politicians of the 1980s still care to argue that the balance of payments and manufacturing industry should be matters of benign neglect?

If we had a thriving manufacturing sector contributing to export growth and import substitution, sterling could sit perfectly happily within the current fixed bands of the exchange-rate mechanism, without the need for high interest rates to defend its value and recession would be avoidable.

There is no easy short-term solution to Britain's chronic economic malaise (not even devaluation), but more telling and worrying, no long-term solution either without an economic strategy designed to improve the performance of the tradable-goods sector of the economy.

The lack of such a strategy has been the major failing of British economic policy for the last 40 years, exacerbated in the 1980s by government abrogation of virtually any responsibility for the real economy.

Yours sincerely,  
A. P. THIRLWALL,  
University of Kent at Canterbury,  
Canterbury, Kent.  
August 25.

Business letters, page 19

## Role of Muslim women

From the Imam of the London Mosque

Sir, Matthew Parris's article, "Still the world's outcasts" (August 10), failed to appreciate the fact that all that is done in the name of Islam is not Islam.

True Islam is that which is mentioned in the Holy Koran and explained in the noble traditions of the Holy Prophet. Anything not substantiated by these is not Islam. All examples quoted by Matthew Parris in his article fall into this category.

Real Islam is the true benefactor of all human beings, women and men alike.

Yours etc,  
A. M. RASHED, Imam,  
The London Mosque,  
16-20 Gresham Road, SW18.  
August 25.

## Evaluation of A-level results and increasing exams' scope

From the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference

Sir, Your leader on the implications of the A-level results ("A-level rat race", August 20), fails to address the central issues raised by the low take-up of the AS examination. This is due not to a rejection of "breadth" on the part of schools but to the impracticality of the whole AS system.

It is only really suited to very able candidates, and it is too expensive to staff. The forecast made not only by HMC, but by other teaching associations in both the maintained and the independent sectors, that candidates would vote with their feet has turned out to be wholly accurate.

Your leader concludes that the government need look no further than to the broadening solutions proposed by Professor Gordon Higginson. This is too simplistic an approach. Since the rejection of the Higginson proposals, a great deal of constructive work has gone into the preparation of alternative proposals which would both preserve what is best in A levels and yet provide a broader "intermediate" course which would be really suitable for a wide range of ability.

The same could be said of the extensive work being done on vocational (rather than academic) routes to higher education. Furthermore, it would be strange if any future proposal were to overlook the striking recommendations made by the Howie committee in Scotland.

These represent a serious attempt to build bridges between the "British" tradition and those of other European countries, and were based on more detailed and open research than that which preceded both the introduction of AS levels and the archaic thinking which lies behind your leader.

Yours faithfully,  
DOMINIC MILROY OSB,  
Ampleforth College, York.  
August 20.

From Professor P. D. J. Weitzman

Sir, Your table (August 21), "Sixty of the best state schools", implies a rank order of A-level achievement, though one seriously hopes it will not be misconstrued as the 60 best state

school A-level performers. Any such "comparative" table needs to compare like with like. For the purpose of university admission, Ucas (Universities Central Council on Admissions) calculates the score for no more than three A-level passes. Thus, assigning ten points to an A grade, the maximum possible score is 30.

The school to emerge top in your table was quoted as having an Ucas score average of 28, but I suspect that this is not calculated on a three A-level basis. If there were 89 candidates and the overall pass rate was 94 per cent, a simple calculation shows that almost every A-level pass would have to be at grade A. While this is theoretically possible, any report of a school whose A-level candidates either scored A grades or failed is highly suspect.

What is probably the case is that your average scores include candidates with four or more A levels. Additionally, passes at AS level have been incorporated as "extra points" — not how Ucas determines scores.

Unless average scores relate to a fixed, defined basis across all schools, the value of any apparent ranking order is undermined. While not disputing the achievements of the "top" schools, your comparative data may be misleading.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID WEITZMAN  
(Assistant Director),  
Cardiff Institute of Higher Education,  
Llandaff Centre,  
Western Avenue, Cardiff.

From Mr D. E. P. Hughes

Sir, As well as being expensive to timetable, AS levels are not well known in higher education. Most important, no AS levels are more demanding than a single A level. An AS is not half an A level; it is more like two thirds.

The additional burden of tackling two AS rather than one A level should be recognised by increasing the points score. I suggest that instead of the present 5,4,3,2,1 scale for A,B,C,D,E grades at AS level, the grades should be worth 7,5,4,3,2.

Two grade Bs at AS level would then be equivalent to a single grade A at A level. One A level and three AS

levels would give a similar maximum to the present three A-level pattern.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER HUGHES,  
5 Woodburn Drive, Porthill,  
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.  
August 21.

From Mr Howard Goldsobel

Sir, There is a radical solution to the worrying imbalance in demand between the arts and sciences (report, August 21), at least so far as entry into higher education is concerned: convert the student loan into a bursary for all those who enrol on and complete approved science courses.

As subject orientation at higher education level much depends on choices made at 16, any solution will necessarily take two or more years to bite. Nevertheless, the introduction of a sciences bursary would immediately harness market forces (and parental pressure) in the redress process.

Yours faithfully,  
HOWARD GOLDSOBEL,  
18 Russell Road, Moor Park,  
Northwood, Middlesex.  
August 24.

From the President of the Society of Education Officers

Sir, How sad that the cynics should seek to attribute this year's improved A-level results to easier papers and soft marking. Might it not be that the improvements owe something to the efforts of the students and their teachers?

Might not the platform of GCSE, lessons learned about teaching methodology from TVEI (technical and vocational education initiative), and the motivating effect of enhanced coursework and modular syllabuses all have had a contribution to make?

Of course we need to analyse trends and the factors which underlie them, but let us also be prepared to give credit where it may be due. Is the occasional word of praise really such a risk?

Yours faithfully,  
KEITH ANDERSON, President,  
Society of Education Officers,  
20 Bedford Way, WC1.  
August 21.

## EC directives

From Mr Peter Beazley, MEP for Bedfordshire South (European People's Party (Conservative))

Sir, Mr Brian Falk (letter, August 20) appears to neglect the vital role which the European Parliament plays in the European legislative process.

The European Commission automatically consults all interested parties from EC member states before issuing its draft legislation. It has to be submitted to the appropriate committee of the European Parliament at the same time as it is presented to the members of the European Council.

The committee can if necessary and often does call for a special hearing of experts and representative bodies affected by that legislation. It can also call for a consultative meeting with the Council of Ministers before completion of the legislative process. The European Council then takes its decision.

Yours faithfully,  
P. G. BEAZLEY,  
Rest Harrow, 14 The Combe,  
Ratton, Eastbourne, East Sussex.  
August 21.

## Cameras at Proms

From Mrs Myra Brown

Sir, The Promenaders hit the nail on the head last night when they asked the orchestra: "Do the cameras get up your nose?"

I have been a regular at the Proms over many years and have never been so irritated by the encroachment of the TV cameras — there were eight of them.

Until this year I have only been aware of four cameras operating discreetly. Now there are three on the platform whirling about, another two among the Promenaders with bright, distracting lights and a further three people moving about operating two cameras between the Promenaders and the platform.

I can see no improvement in the TV coverage of these concerts since the proliferation of cameras. This is another example of extravagant and unnecessary expense.

Will the day come I wonder when there is no longer room for a live audience for the Proms — the cameras will have taken over?

Yours faithfully,  
MYRA BROWN,  
33 Haldane Road, SW6.  
August 18.

## Cost of shooting grouse

From Mr Roy Cole

Sir, How far a cry it is from Mr Jamie Hepburn-Wright's long catalogue of expenses for the moors (letter, August 22) to the old and simple tag, if anyone remembers it: "Up goes a guinea, bang goes sixpence, down comes half-a-crown."

Yours etc,  
ROY COLE,  
21 Berehurst, Boreover Lane,  
Alton, Hampshire.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.







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OBITUARIES

MALCOLM ANSON

Malcolm Anson, chairman of Imperial Tobacco and later chairman of Wessex Water Authority, died on August 13 in a swimming accident in the Seychelles aged 68. He was born in Bristol on April 23, 1924.

MALCOLM Anson had two successful business careers in very different sectors. During his long period with the Imperial Tobacco Group he rose to be chairman and then, after removal from this position, he quickly transferred to the very different world of the Wessex Water Authority. He was successful in helping to prepare Wessex Water for the privatisation that happened shortly after he completed his five-year term as chairman in 1987.

Since his retirement in that year he had been no less busy, largely looking after education and young people's causes. He died on honeymoon after his recent second marriage.

After Winchester, military service and a distinguished academic performance at Trinity, Oxford, Malcolm Anson joined in 1947 the then Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain and Ireland. It was a predictable step as his father, Sir Wilfred Anson, was at the time deputy chairman. However his wit, wisdom, judgment and likeability quickly ensured his progress on his own merits and he



worked steadily through the company to become chairman in 1980.

This was a difficult time. The Imperial Group was seriously pursuing diversification to replace already shrinking income from the core interests of tobacco, cigarette and cigar manufacture. Some of the forays into food and drink and the notorious Howard Johnson hotel investment in the United States meant, unhappily and unfairly, that Malcolm Anson was blamed for poor performance by Imperial and he left the company.

But his abilities were well known to government as well as British commerce and in 1982 he became chairman of the then Wessex Water Authority.

In that position he helped to prepare the company for its eventual privatisation in 1989, and it was Anson's robust negotiations with government that ensured Wessex Water got its fair share of capital and was able to put in place the assets that deliver its present high standards.

Malcolm Anson was always actively interested in promoting good education and training. These interests led him to become chairman of the Bristol Association of Youth Clubs, of Endeavour Training and of the Avon Enterprise Fund. He was chairman of the careers board of Bristol University, vice-chairman of Clifton College council and, from 1971 to 1983, director of Ullswater Outward Bound Mountain School.

In 1977 he was High Sheriff of Avon and in 1979 Master of the Society of Merchant Venturers in Bristol. In many other and less obvious ways he helped the city of Bristol and the west country.

Anson was a man of immense charm and humour who wrote and spoke as a classicist should. He was well respected, especially by those who knew him well.

He had three sons and a daughter from his first marriage.

MICHAEL WHEELER

Michael Wheeler, TD, QC, specialist in company law, died on August 7, aged 77. He was born on January 8, 1915.

MICHAEL Wheeler inherited from his father, the effervescent Sir Mortimer Wheeler, much of his iconoclastic irreverence for pomposity and bureaucracy. However, as a Deputy High Court Judge for 15 years, his judgment and the respect in which he was held totally belied his outwardly frivolous attitude and barely concealed impish sense of humour.

He was educated at the Dragon School and then won



and actors of some repute. Wheeler's father had commissioned him as a 2nd Lieutenant, but it was only later that the War Office became aware of this and confirmed it.

Wheeler saw more serious wartime service in Italy, where he was in command of a regiment and was mentioned in despatches. He was demobilised as a lieutenant colonel in 1946.

One of his first assignments was as a member of the UK mission to the Argentine to sell the Argentine Railways to pay for the bully beef consumed by Britain during the war. His practice was mostly advisory and drafting and he was known for his adaptable, obliging and enormously professional approach, which included a willingness to give a rapid but considered opinion, not a trait present among all his contemporaries. He took silk in 1961.

He sat on many arbitrations and established a reputation for sound judgments. It was not normal for barristers of his specialisation to become High Court Judges, but, from 1972 to 1989, he sat as a Deputy High Court Judge in the Chancery Division.

Wheeler was a keen cricketer and golfer and represented the Bar on several occasions. His chambers were one of the first to stop the practice of making pupils pay a fee to their masters. However, he was not averse to striking the occasional bargain and when Geoffrey Kieghley, who played for Yorkshire in 1949, came as his pupil, Wheeler insisted on receiving a course of lessons at the Alf Gover Cricket School as his fee.

Wheeler married, in 1939, Sheila Mayou who survives him together with their two daughters.

a scholarship to Rugby before going to Oxford to read Law at Christ Church. He was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1938.

Before the second world war, he had already joined the Territorial Army and trained as a gunner. He helped his father in 1939 to raise the 48th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery at Enfield, whose first recruits included the present Lord Goodman. The 48th consisted mainly of lawyers

GENERAL KLEMENS RUDNICKI

General Klemens Rudnicki, DSO, Polish war hero, died in London on August 12 aged 95. He was born in Zydaczow on March 28, 1897.



KLEMENS Rudnicki described himself well in his 1974 memoirs as the "last of the warhorses". After some brave but, inadequate, cavalry charges against invading German armoured cars in 1939, he quickly realised that European warfare would from then on be mechanised. Yet Rudnicki remained to the end of his life the quintessential cavalry officer, courteous, attached to an almost regimental code of honour, a loyal friend, a man of great dignity and some dash.

During the first world war as a young soldier in the Austro-Hungarian army, he was wounded in the hand. This did not deter him from continuing with a military career and in independent Poland he quickly gained the command of a light cavalry squadron fighting against Red Army units. By the age of 24 Rudnicki was already a veteran of two wars. He was appointed to the army staff college as a lecturer on tactics.

The German invasion of Poland saw Rudnicki, then a colonel, as regimental commander of the ninth Lancers. Equipped with precious few anti-tank guns, their position constantly betrayed by German spotter planes, the Lancers had little chance against the sophisticated blitzkrieg machinery of the Germans. The failure of cavalry against a modern mobile army, remembered Rudnicki, was "one of

our greatest disillusiones". Having hidden the regimental colours, Rudnicki linked up with the Polish underground resistance and started to smuggle intelligence reports abroad to General Wladyslaw Sikorski. On a clandestine intelligence gathering mission to Soviet occupied Lwow - in what was later to become the western Ukraine - he was arrested by the NKVD, the Soviet secret police. His subsequent odyssey was typical for many Poles: deportation to Siberia, unexpected freedom and army service for the Allies in Persia, Iraq, Palestine, Egypt, fighting in Italy and a

sands of Poles held captive in the Soviet Union. In 1941 Rudnicki joined Anders' general staff and travelled with the army to Teheran and, in 1943, joined up with other Polish units in Cairo. By the time that the Poles invaded Italy, Rudnicki had been temporarily transformed into an infantryman. He was the deputy commander of an infantry division that charged courageously up Phantom Ridge and St Angelo Hill at Monte Cassino. During the battle of Ancona he was commander, and won the Distinguished Service Order. Rudnicki's troops went on to liberate Bologna. He then flew to the western front and led Polish units as they occupied Wilhelmshaven and accepted the surrender of the Germans.

The immediate post-war years brought him briefly into conflict with the allied occupation command which wanted to repatriate Poles to Poland. Rudnicki well understood what awaited the returning Poles. With some sympathetic British commanders, he managed to create a temporary shelter for many of the Poles in Germany, buying them time while they found western countries that would accept them.

Rudnicki chose to live in England and was soon joined by his wife who fled communist Poland. They had three daughters, one of whom had died in the Warsaw uprising in 1944. For most of his retirement, General Rudnicki was an antique dealer and restorer. But he was very active in veteran associations and was regarded as a moral beacon for many exiled Poles.

ARTHUR PROPPER

Arthur Propper, CMG, MBE, civil servant, died on July 30 aged 81. He was born on August 3, 1910.

undertook a series of important assignments as under secretary in a department which became increasingly bound up with Europe. After retirement from the civil service in 1970, he acted as European adviser to Unigate and then did a spell with the Price Commission until 1976.

It was a happy accident that this meticulous and sensitive official was able to spend such a large part of his career dealing with matters European. A keen sense of history was an important part of both his professional and private life and he was steeped in European culture. He loved all the arts though literature had pride of place. He read voraciously and with deep insight. His civilised and subtle mind made it not surprising that Henry James was one of his favourite authors. He carried all this erudition modestly but liked nothing better than to share it with his friends. We beside them if they had not read the latest issue of the *New York Review of Books*.



WHEN Harold Macmillan decided to try to take Britain into Europe, agriculture was one of the major obstacles. Arthur Propper was sent to Brussels in 1962 to act as the linkman for the ministry of agriculture. This was no easy task. Both the permanent secretary in the ministry and the president of the National Farmers Union of the day were fervent anti-marketers and no demand for special treatment for Britain was too outrageous for them. But the minister of agriculture - the late Christopher Soames - and the team sent to negotiate Britain's entry wanted to find acceptable terms. Caught between these currents, it was Arthur Propper's job to represent to the six original members of the European Community what it was Britain really needed if public opinion was to support entry, and to report back on their reactions. His cool appreciation of what the Six would swallow, while not always welcome to the negotiating team, was invaluable intelligence. His qualities of personality and intellect enabled him to retain the confidence of all sides. A deal on agriculture probably could have been struck but de Gaulle's veto intervened and Propper returned to London.

Like many of his generation, Arthur Propper became a civil servant because of the second world war. Educated at Owens School and Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he took a first in history, his early career was in advertising. But with the outbreak of the war, he was drafted into the ministry of economic warfare and later transferred to the ministry of food. He became an established civil servant in the merged ministry of agriculture, fisheries and food and was a natural choice to represent the ministry in Brussels. On his return in 1964 he

He suffered a long series of illnesses with tremendous dignity and fortitude. Throughout them all he had the unflinching care and support of Erica, his wife for more than 50 years. She shared his cultural interests with him to the full. They made a wonderful, cultivated partnership. He will be sorely missed by her, by his daughter and family and also by a wide circle of friends.

DON LANG

Don Lang, trombonist, rock and roll vocalist and band leader, died of cancer at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, aged 67. He was born on January 19, 1925.



DON Lang's musical career began in the dying years of the big band swing era, but he was to achieve his greatest fame during the emergence of rock and roll in the Fifties when his Frantic Five ensemble dominated the popular television show *Six Five Special*, forerunner of *Top of the Pops*. Although the aptly named Frantic Five - they were an exceedingly energetic group on stage - accompanied many rock and roll stars of the day, such as Tommy Steele and Cliff Richard, when they appeared on the programme, they notched up some impressive rock and roll successes of their own with Lang himself doing the vocals.

In May 1958 his recording of "Which Doctor" reached No 5 in the British pop music charts and remained there for 11 weeks. A year earlier the success of his rendering of Chuck Berry's "anti-classroom" hit "School Day" prevented the composer's version from climbing any higher than No 16 for his debut in what was then called the British Hit Parade.

"School Day" was to cause mildly nervous tremors among educationists both sides of the Atlantic because its rallying cry "Hail, Hail, Rock and Roll" echoed down many a college corridor; the gentle protest lyrics suggesting that pupils preferred playing the juke-box to dipping pens in inkwells. Another of Lang's vocal hits of the period was entitled "Cloud-burst" which first appeared in the charts at No 16 in November 1955, and was to make two brief reappearances shortly after.

Lang, whose original name was Gordon Langhorn, grew up in his native Halifax; his musical career began with the double bass but he changed to the trombone, moving to London where, in 1949, he was to join the well-known

swing band of the day led by Vic Lewis. Lewis freely stole his style on his big band idol Stan Kenton who favoured massive brass emphasis in his "progressive jazz" arrangements. Langhorn was a featured soloist, first in Lewis's expanded orchestra for his ambitious "music for modern" tour, and also for the reduced dance band format that was to follow. Langhorn was one of a distinguished list of ex-Lewis players who were to succeed in fronting their own bands: others on the list were Ken Thorne, Johnny Keating, Stan Reynolds, Ronnie Scott and Tubby Hayes. Langhorn left Lewis for a spell with the equally popular Ken Mackintosh Orchestra during which he co-wrote one of the band's biggest swing hits "The Creep". By the mid-fifties big bands were becoming not only less popular but prohibitively costly to maintain; seeing the light, Langhorn became a highly successful "session" musician, meanwhile launching what was to become his parallel career of vocalist, with his singing version of Woody Herman's instrumental "Four Brothers". He was also one of the musicians who anticipated the rise of rock and roll; he truncated his name to Don Lang and formed the Frantic Five which he fronted with his rousing trombone and appealing voice.

Don Lang remained an enthusiastic and dedicated professional even in his declining years, during which he courageously fought his illness; he continued playing sessions wherever and whenever he was able.

He is survived by his wife May and their son and daughter.

NORMAN DANIEL

Norman Alexander Daniel, CBE, formerly of the British Council, died on August 11 aged 73. He was born on May 8, 1919.

after the second world war and, in 1947, assistant director of the British Institute, Beirut.

He was assistant representative of the British Council in Baghdad (1948) and in Beirut (1952). In 1960 he became deputy representative for Scotland, and in 1962 representative in Khartoum.

He was cultural attaché and then cultural councillor to the

British Embassy in Cairo, 1971-79. He was appointed CBE in 1962, and CBE in 1974, in particular in recognition of his work for Britain during the Arab-Israeli wars.

His publications included *Islam and the West*, 1960, and several other works on this subject: *The Cultural Barrier*, 1975, and *Herods and Saracens*, 1984. He also wrote, pseudonymously, *Revolution in Iraq*, concerning the events of 1958.

His first wife, Ruth Peirbridge, whom he married in 1941, died in 1981. Their adopted son, Gerald, had earlier died while in his early twenties. In 1988 Daniel married Morna Wales (nee Murray), whom he had known more than 50 years earlier at Frensham Heights, and whom he leaves a widow.

SIR EDWIN ARROWSMITH

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, KCMG, former governor of the Falkland Islands, has died aged 83. He was born on May 23, 1909.

British Antarctic Territory. Apart from his time in the Falklands, his 32 years in the service of the Commonwealth had been almost equally divided between the West Indies and southern Africa.

From 1965 to 1979 he was director of the Overseas Services Resettlement Bureau. In 1970 he widened his interest in the welfare of blind people by accepting the chairmanship of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, a post he relinquished in 1985. He then became a vice-president.

Arrowsmith leaves his widow and two daughters.

EDWIN Arrowsmith gave 28 years service to the blind after his retirement from a distinguished career in the service of the Commonwealth. In July 1964 he was appointed to the council of St Dunstan's, the organisation working for men and women blinded in the Services. Arrowsmith had recently retired from the posts of governor and commander-in-chief of the Falkland Islands and high commissioner of the

AUGUST 26 ON THIS DAY 1933

Among those who were deprived by the Nazis of their nationality were Ernst Toller, the playwright and revolutionary; Lion Feuchtwanger, author of the best-seller *Jew Süss*; Wilhelm Pieck, who was to become President of the German Democratic Republic after the war, and Philipp Scheidemann, who had proclaimed the first German Republic in 1918.

NEW ACT OF NAZI PERSECUTION

The Ministry of the Interior publishes a first list of 33 persons now abroad who have been deprived of their German nationality under the Act of July 14 for the revocation of naturalisation and the forfeiture of German nationality "because they have injured German interests by conduct conflicting with the duty of loyalty to Reich and nation." Their property has been confiscated.

which first became known in Germany through the news of its success in America and England; the parities were always irritated when the outer world quoted Herr Feuchtwanger, a Jew, as a foremost representative of German literature.

Herr Heinrich Mann, a brother of Herr Thomas Mann, the Nobel prizewinner, already in 1914 an open satirist of the monarchical times, his post-war works were all written from an advanced Liberal and Democratic angle. Until quite recently Herr Heinrich Mann was president of the Prussian Academy of Literature.

Herr Ernst Toller, a Jew, Communist revolutionary in Bavaria, and dramatist whose plays attracted much attention in England, so that he was in 1925 the guest of honour at a P.E.N. Club dinner in London which was presided over by J.K. Jerome and to which he was bidden welcome by W.B. Yeats.

Dr Kurt Tucholsky, an advanced Liberal and Democratic writer.

Professor Georg Bernhard, a Jew and former Editor of the *Vossische Zeitung*.

Dr Alfred Kerr, the former Dramatic Critic of the *Berliner Tageblatt*.

Dr Friedrich Forster, who sacrificed a professorship at Munich University to pacifist convictions, which drove him into Switzerland during the War; he was for many years a leading member of the German Peace Society.

Professor Emil Gumbel, a Jew, formerly of Heidelberg University, an unyielding pacifist, who for years kept the students of Heidelberg in commotion by his views about war, and once caused a riot by saying that for him the symbol of war was not a lightly clad maiden preferring laurels of victory, but "one big lump".

Herr Heinz Neumann, a former leader of the Communist Party, Herr Wilhelm Pieck, the Communist Parliamentary leader, Herr Lion Feuchtwanger, a book-

Archaeology

Kingston Lacy dusts down its eccentric Egyptian collection

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ONE of Britain's oldest, yet least known collections of Egyptian antiquities has just gone on display in the unlikely surroundings of Kingston Lacy, the National Trust house in Dorset best known for its superb collection of paintings by Rubens, Velasquez and other masters.

Like the paintings, however, the roomful of limestone stelae, scarabs, and shabti servant figures from tombs were amassed as part of the decoration of the house, by William Banks, one of the most eccentric and mildly scandalous figures of Regency England.

Born in 1786, he was Byron's "collegiate pastor, master and patron, father of all mischiefs" at

Cambridge: the poet's approbation and Banks's "Gothick" room decorations at Trinity College have ensured his name some remembrance down the years. Less remarked, however, have been the results of his two expeditions to the Nile in 1815 and 1818.

On the first of these he travelled as a gentleman amateur, but the interest in ancient Egypt that the visit engendered in him led to a return accompanied by several professional artists to record ruins and views, and Giovanni Belzoni, the most accomplished tomb-robbler of his day, to help build a collection.

The most important and spectacular of his acquisitions, an obelisk from Philae bearing an hieroglyphic text including the cartouche of Cleopatra, has stood in the gardens at Kingston Lacy since 1839. Together with the accompanying Greek inscription on its plinth, the obelisk text, which Banks had copied in 1815 and sent to Francois Champollion, was instrumental in helping Champollion to read Egyptian hieroglyphs in 1822, the first major decipherment of an ancient script.

Banks placed the granite sarcophagus of Amenemope nearby; but as well as pharaohs at the bottom of the garden, he wanted striking objects for the house. "This is the sole surviving English gentleman's collection from the early days, virtually

intact and a monument to the insensitive, even if uninformed judgement of one whose tastes were developed in the refined climate of Regency Britain," said Mr Harry James, former keeper of Egyptian antiquities at the British Museum.

William Banks spent his last years abroad, having jumped bail after a homosexual encounter with a guardsman, but continued to send back treasures to adorn the house he had already turned into an Italianate palazzo. His Egyptian collections found little favour with his successors, however, and languished in storage until this year.

They have now been assembled in the billiards room, under Mr James's

direction. "There are groups of objects of some importance to Egyptologists," he said.

"They are a neat and comprehensive set of records of private piety, especially the tomb stelae from Deir-el-Medina, the village of the workmen who cut the tombs in the Valley of the Kings".

The stelae, small slabs some two feet high, are carved with scenes of gods and donors: the tomb-maker Perennute makes an offering to the deified Amenophis I, two men named Pyjai, probably father and son, offer sculptor's chisels to the falcon god and Thoth, scribe of the gods, and Ramesses II offers wine to the goddesses Hathor and Mut.



# Car makers braced for cuts and closures as sales plummet

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

CAR makers are preparing themselves for new job cuts and closures as they face the doubling of Britain's motor trade deficit and the threat of the worst August sales for eight years.

Figures yesterday showed car exports, which have kept British assembly lines busy during the recession, suffered a rapid fall in the second quarter of the year while imports jumped.

The reversal helped to push up the deficit in automotive products to £1.37 billion for the first six months, 121.3 per cent higher than in the first half of last year and worse than the whole of 1991. The second quarter deficit of £834 million was a deterioration of 202 per cent over the April to June figures of last year.

Cars shipped abroad between April and June fell by 18 per cent, leading to a total 11 per cent decline over the first half of the year to 289,333. At the same time, car imports were up 20 per cent in the second quarter and at 509,132 for the first six months are running 14 per cent higher than in the same period of 1991.

The depressing trade figures issued by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders underlined how difficult it is proving to drag the nation's biggest manufacturing sector off the bottom of recession.

Last week Ford put its main Dagenham plant on a three-day week because exports began to falter, adding to the problems of the weak home market. Rover has also started short-time working at its main Longbridge plant at Birmingham for the same reason.

Manufacturers sank their hopes for a revival at home into August, the biggest sales month of the year accounting for almost a quarter of annual domestic registrations. They needed sales to top 400,000 if the industry was to improve, but sales in the first 20 days have struggled to 290,550, just 0.9 per cent above the 287,900 in the first 20 days of August, 1991.

Ford is still predicting the month would end with sales of 365,000, which would be the lowest since 1984 and marginally below the 368,000 of last year.

However, the Retail Motor

Industry Federation, which represents 12,000 dealers, remained optimistic that the industry could hit 380,000, more than last year, still below expectations.

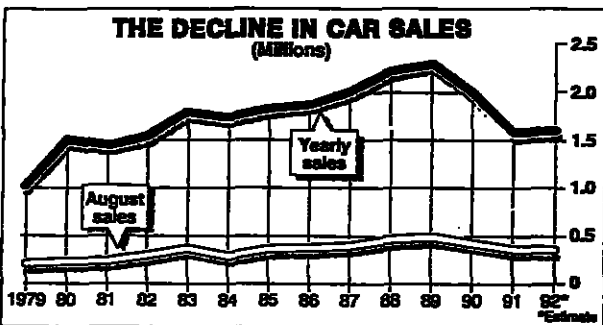
Manufacturers have cut prices and raised the advertising budget for August to a record £50 million to lure customers back. The cost of marketing and financing by some manufacturers has been as much as £450 a car.

Last night manufacturers were counting the cost of throwing so much money into the marketplace for no better return than August, 1991, which was part of the worst annual sales slump for 50 years. They see little chance of achieving annual sales over 1991's 1.59 million.

A spokesman for Ford, Britain's biggest car company, said: "There is still a lot of uncertainty out there in the marketplace. We all started with high hopes and sales have managed to turn up slightly but we still think that August will be 365,000 and that does not tell us that the industry is staging any sort of dramatic revival."

Vauxhall added: "Everyone is having a tough time. The car industry is an economic indicator and things are not going so well."

There are also about 30,000 cars that may have to be heavily discounted because they must be sold before January 1. Those cars are not fitted with catalytic converters. Under European Community legislation, all cars on sale next year must have one.



Jaguar engine, page 2

## 20,000 ring in to hear royal tape

Continued from page 1  
Play the King, an unpopular prime minister opts to play the republican card against the king to distract the public from his dwindling economy. The king, who has waited for decades for the throne, complains about the homeless and destruction of the environment. The fictional Princess Charlotte is photographed on holiday with another man and after several other mishaps, is forced to leave the family.

Michael Wearing, head of drama series, said: "It promises to be one of the most controversial series we have made and it is probably as a result of excitement in the royal."

But a senior BBC source said plans to adapt the novel for television had been on the cards long before allegations began appearing in newspapers about the Duchess of York and the Princess of Wales. The BBC had been delayed by eight months of wrangling between Mr

Dobbs and Mr Davies who could not agree on the storyline.

Mr Davies said he now had freedom to adapt the novel, adding: "Real-life events seem to be overtaking it. It will be difficult to know what to include." But he promised some distance between the drama and the real royal family. "There will be no lookalikes and certainly no body with ears that stick out."

Battle theme, page 5  
Diary, page 10



Martin Bell of the BBC lies wounded after being hit during a mortar attack in Sarajevo. It was his first injury in a career covering 11 wars. He told colleagues: "Okay, I'll survive. I am alive."

## Tenacious girl given her new heart at last

BY TIM JONES

A LITTLE girl who lived for seven weeks after doctors said she had just 48 hours left was yesterday given a new heart. Wendy Walker, ten, had clung to life while doctors searched Europe for a replacement organ.

Wendy had amazed doctors and hospital staff with her tenacity as she waited in an intensive care unit for a donor heart to be found.

Colin Hilton, the surgeon who performed the five-hour operation at the Freeman hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, said later that Wendy was in a satisfactory condition. Mr Hilton said: "She is a remarkable fighter. I went on holiday last week and I fully expected her not to be here when I got back."

The hospital gave virtually no details about the donor heart, which came from an Englishman.

Wendy's parents, Peter and Evelyn, had maintained a bedside vigil, praying that she would survive for long enough to have the opera-

tion. Mr Walker, 43, a gas engineer from Longforgan, Dundee, Tayside, had appeared on television pleading for a donor and Wendy was put at the top of the European transplant list.

A spokeswoman for the hospital said: "Wendy has got a hell of a lot of willpower for her age. Her parents were absolutely euphoric when they were told about the operation. It has been a long period of worry for them."

Wendy had lived a normal, healthy life until a virus attacked her heart muscles, leaving her needing a transplant to survive. It was not until Monday that Mr Walker and his wife heard the news that a heart had become available.

Mr Walker said: "When she came out of the operating theatre we were told her feet were nice and warm, where before they were cold. Her eyes are open now and she knows her mum and dad are there for her."

## Thousands forced to leave New Orleans

Continued from page 1

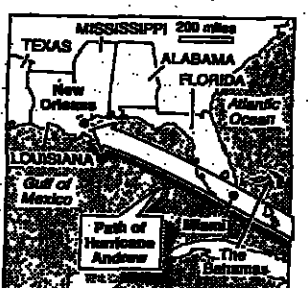
south Miami to prevent access to scavengers from outside the region. About 1,500 National Guardsmen have been deployed as well as an infantry battalion. But in some homes, people armed with shotguns refuse to abandon their possessions.

President Bush flew into southern Miami where he toured damaged areas. He visited an evacuation shelter close to where the eye of Andrew struck. At times the president's motorcade slowed to a crawl as it negotiated fallen power lines and mangled traffic lights. "My heart

goes out to the people of Florida," Mr Bush said. He promised to do all he can to hasten release of \$50 million in disaster relief funds.

Even though the winds have passed, emergency management officials have told residents not to leave their homes. They gave a warning that hurricane experiences showed that most deaths and injuries come in the aftermath of the storm from power cables, glass, damaged buildings and traffic accidents due to failed traffic lights.

Andrew has taken a devastating environmental toll on the Miami area. "It looks like a plague of locusts has been here," said a spokesman for parks management. At Homestead air force base, every building was either destroyed or damaged said the Pentagon. The 6,500 workers have been told to stay away for at least five days. "Homestead air force base no longer exists," said Toni Tjordan at the Florida Community Affairs Department.



## Reserves may be used to shore up sterling

Continued from page 1

for ratification of the treaty, but it also revealed that 21 per cent of respondents did not intend to vote. The L'Express poll was carried out by IFOP among a representative sample of 947 people on the electoral register.

A third poll, carried out by Louis Harris for VSD magazine, showed that 33 per cent would vote in favour of the Maastricht treaty and 31 per cent would vote against. A further 36 per cent said either that they did not know how they would vote or that they would not do so.

The survey was carried out by telephone using a representative sample of 944 voters. A previous Louis Harris poll, carried out on July 4 and 5, gave the lobby in favour of the treaty on European unity a 10 per cent lead over those against.

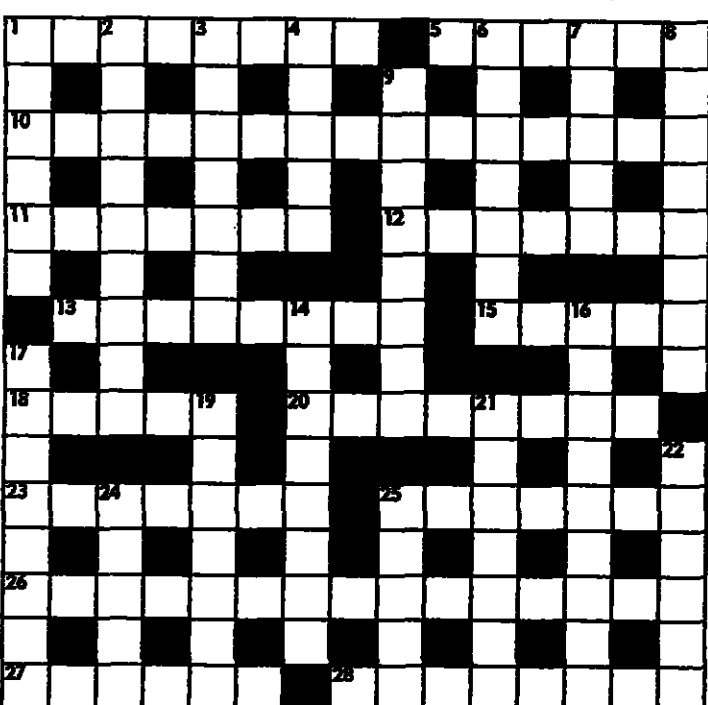
Le Figaro newspaper will today publish its own survey by the Sofres polling firm. It shows 51 per cent of respondents in favour of the treaty, and 49 per cent against. The firm questioned 1,000 voters between Friday and Monday.

Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said yesterday that it was "touch and go" whether an interest rate rise could be averted. He claimed that Mr Major's credibility on the ERM was being undermined because he was too scared to "take out" the Tory rebels calling for Britain's withdrawal. Mr Beith urged the government to underpin the pound by putting sterling in the narrow band of the ERM, giving the Bank of England independent charge of setting interest rates and dropping Britain's opt-out clause on monetary union.

He argued that the pound was also under pressure because of lack of confidence in Britain's "real economy" and he called for an extra £2 billion to be spent on housing, public building and transport to get the construction industry moving. Mr Beith criticised Labour for lacking a coherent policy and said that it was calling for European co-ordination on interest rates which it knew were impossible to achieve.

Holiday bargains, page 2  
Letters, page 11  
Maastricht worries, page 15

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,007



### ACROSS

- 1 Fruit put in piles in lines (8).
- 5 Waterproof stuff - it's about to be incorporated in a raincoat (6).
- 10 As a court official, I can have dinner disciplined (4-1-1).
- 11 Broadcast debate about help being turned back (7).
- 12 Ship's doctor right about up (7).
- 13 Bespangled girl rejected advance payment (8).
- 15 Ecstatic about money that's disbursed (5).
- 18 While speaking, adjusts clothing (5).
- 20 Working hard in recession, extracting from niobium the core metal (8).
- 23 Interrupt routines in attempt to make a comeback (7).
- 25 A mule, perhaps - one unsteady on his feet (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,006

JUMPER WINDAID  
A U A I E E R  
K A M E R B E R V I S T A  
K B E E R F  
A L L O A S U A R L O A F  
L E L U E K I  
A P R A R A N G E M E N T  
A Y G E G I  
B A R R A G E B A L L O O N  
S C R E E N I N G  
S K U L L P R I V I L E G E  
S C I A S N A G  
A M K A R T A G I A L O G

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 22 per cent of the competitors at the 1992 Birmingham regional final of The Times InterCity Crossword Championship.

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?  
By Philip Howard

- ROTCHER**  
a. The escapement of a watch  
b. The small arctic ark  
c. The scissors in Cumberland
- ZEMNI**  
a. The castrated porter in a barroom  
b. The blind mole-rat  
c. A provincial council
- ERRABUND**  
a. A fascist secret society  
b. Wandering  
c. An obsolete Baroque coin
- FOURGIERE**  
a. A kitchen garden  
b. Soap-making  
c. Alcoholism

Answers on page 12

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0801 500 followed by the appropriate code.

- Greater London 701  
Kent, Surrey, Sussex 702  
Dorset, Hampshire & IOW 703  
Devon & Cornwall 704  
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Berkshire, Oxfordshire 705  
Berkshire, Oxfordshire 706  
Bedfordshire & Essex 707  
Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, West Midlands & Shropshire & Herefordshire 708  
Shropshire, Herefordshire & Worcester 709  
Central Midlands 710  
East Midlands 711  
Lincolnshire & Humberside 712  
Dyfed & Pembrokeshire 713  
Gwynedd & Clwyd 714  
North Wales 715  
W & S Wales & Wales 716  
N & S Wales & Wales 717  
N & S Wales & Wales 718  
Cumbria & Lake District 719  
S W Scotland 720  
E Central Scotland 721  
E Central Scotland 722  
Grampian & E Highlands 723  
N W Scotland 724  
Cairngorms, Orkney & Shetland 725  
N Ireland 727

Weatherfax is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

### AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadwork information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

- London & SE  
C London (within N & S Circs) 731  
M-ways/roads M4-M11 732  
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733  
M-ways/roads Dartford-T423 734  
M-ways/roads M23-M4 735  
M25 London Orbital only 736

- National  
National motorways 737  
West Country 738  
Wales 739  
Northern Ireland 740  
East Angles 741  
North-west England 742  
North-east England 743  
Scotland 744  
England 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Cloudy, apart from a few sunny intervals in the East. Showers in the West will spread quickly eastwards. Some showers will be heavy and could be prolonged. Brighter but still cloudy conditions will spread across the country during the afternoon, before rain reaches the North later. Outlook: unsettled, with showers or longer spells of rain.

### MIDDAY: 1-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, 19-20, 21-22, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34, 35-36, 37-38, 39-40, 41-42, 43-44, 45-46, 47-48, 49-50, 51-52, 53-54, 55-56, 57-58, 59-60, 61-62, 63-64, 65-66, 67-68, 69-70, 71-72, 73-74, 75-76, 77-78, 79-80, 81-82, 83-84, 85-86, 87-88, 89-90, 91-92, 93-94, 95-96, 97-98, 99-100, 101-102, 103-104, 105-106, 107-108, 109-110, 111-112, 113-114, 115-116, 117-118, 119-120, 121-122, 123-124, 125-126, 127-128, 129-130, 131-132, 133-134, 135-136, 137-138, 139-140, 141-142, 143-144, 145-146, 147-148, 149-150, 151-152, 153-154, 155-156, 157-158, 159-160, 161-162, 163-164, 165-166, 167-168, 169-170, 171-172, 173-174, 175-176, 177-178, 179-180, 181-182, 183-184, 185-186, 187-188, 189-190, 191-192, 193-194, 195-196, 197-198, 199-200, 201-202, 203-204, 205-206, 207-208, 209-210, 211-212, 213-214, 215-216, 217-218, 219-220, 221-222, 223-224, 225-226, 227-228, 229-230, 231-232, 233-234, 235-236, 237-238, 239-240, 241-242, 243-244, 245-246, 247-248, 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915-916, 917-918, 919-920, 921-922, 923-924, 925-926, 927-928, 929-930, 931-932, 933-934, 935-936, 937-938, 939-940, 941-942, 943-944, 945-946, 947-948, 949-950, 951-952, 953-954, 955-956, 957-958, 959-960, 961-962, 963-964, 965-966, 967-968, 969-970, 971-972, 973-974, 975-976, 977-978, 979-980, 981-982, 983-984, 985-986, 987-988, 989-990, 991-992, 993-994, 995-996, 997-998, 999-1000, 1001-1002, 1003-1004, 1005-1006, 1007-1008, 1009-1010, 1011-1012, 1013-1014, 1015-1016, 1017-1018, 1019-1020, 1021-1022, 1023-1024, 1025-1026, 1027-1028, 1029-1030, 1031-1032, 1033-1034, 1035-1036, 1037-1038, 1039-1040, 1041-1042, 1043-1044, 1045-1046, 1047-1048, 1049-1050, 1051-1052, 1053-1054, 1055-1056, 1057-1058, 1059-1060, 1061-1062, 1063-1064, 1065-1066, 1067-1068, 1069-1070, 1071-1072, 1073-1074, 1075-1076, 1077-1078, 1079-1080, 1081-1082, 1083-1084, 1085-1086, 1087-1088, 1089-1090, 1091-1092, 1093-1094, 1095-1096, 1097-1098, 1099-1100, 1101-1102, 1103-1104, 1105-1106, 1107-1108, 1109-1110, 1111-1112, 1113-1114, 1115-1116, 1117-1118, 1119-1120, 1121-1122, 1123-1124, 1125-1126, 1127-1128, 1129-1130, 1131-1132, 1133-1134, 1135-1136, 1137-1138, 1139-1140, 1141-1142, 1143-1144, 1145-1146, 1147-1148, 1149-1150, 1151-1152, 1153-1154, 1155-1156, 1157-1158, 1159-1160, 1161-1162, 1163-1164, 1165-1166, 1167-1168, 1169-1170, 1171-1172, 1173-1174, 1175-1176, 1177-1178, 1179-1180, 1181-1182, 1183-1184, 1185-1186, 1187-1188, 1189-1190, 1191-1192, 1193-1194, 1195-1196, 1197-1198, 1199-1200, 1201-1202, 1203-1204, 1205-1206, 1207-1208, 1209-1210, 1211-1212, 1213-1214, 1215-1216, 1217-1218, 1219-1220, 1221-1222, 1223-1224, 1225-1226, 1227-1228, 1229-1230, 1231-1232, 1233-1234, 1235-1236, 1237-1238, 1239-1240, 1241-1242, 1243-1244, 1245-1246, 1247-1248, 1249-1250, 12



## Big British companies will lose millions from \$2 pound

By PATRICIA TEHAN

BRITISH companies stand to lose £750 million in export profits and an extra £200 million from currency translation for each 10 cent fall in the dollar against sterling, according to figures from Doug McWilliams, economic adviser to the Confederation of British Industry.

He warned that all large UK firms will be affected by the \$2 pound, either from the impact on exports, as demand weakens and profit margins are hit, or from the effect of translating weak dollar profits into sterling. Professor McWilliams believes Britain's big exporters, that are competing with Ameri-

can companies on price, will all be hurt. Industrialists yesterday voiced their concern that this year's profits will be damaged.

Half of Hanson's operating profits come from America. In the year to September 30 1991 America contributed £493 million of Hanson's 1995 million operating profits. Yesterday a Hanson director said: "Clearly the translation of dollar denominated operating profits is adverse when the currency declines. But there are knock-on benefits in terms of making exports from the US." In addition, he said, it will lower the company's interest bill for dollar denominated borrowings. However, "On balance it will be negative rather than positive" he

said. Stephen Brown, chief executive at Tate & Lyle, the sugar group where more than half of profits are made in America, said every one cent appreciation of the pound against the dollar will reduce profits after tax by between £300,000 and £400,000 a year as well as reducing the value of its North American assets. He said there will be little effect on cash flow because "We use our cash generated in North America to pay interest on our debt and also to reinvest. Although we have a high percentage of earnings in the US we also raise almost all our debt there, so there is a natural hedge."

Mr Brown added: "If we thought that it was a long term situation then we would be

concerned" about the longer-term economic effect on the company. "But at the moment we regard it as an accounting situation", he said.

David Nash, finance director at Grand Metropolitan, the drinks group, said the company has forward cover in place to protect it from most of its exposures but said currency translation will wipe between £8 million and £9 million off pre-tax profits for every five cent fall in the value of the dollar.

Research from Philip Wolstencroft, Smith New Court's market strategist, shows drugs companies are likely to be worst hit. But he says many companies will benefit from lower commodity prices. Wellcome esti-

mates that every one cent movement of dollar/sterling rates affects pre-tax profits by £1.5 million. ICI, which has one third of its earnings from America, expects to suffer in terms of earnings translation, but believes the damage to profits will be offset to some extent by advantages gained in terms of buying dollar denominated commodities.

Britain's biggest manufacturer, British Aerospace, says it is protected from fluctuations in the dollar by currency hedging. BAE's all-important Al Yamamah Saudi Arabian defence contract is, however, vulnerable as the company is paid in the proceeds of oil sales. BAE is hedged at \$1.50 to \$1.70 over the next 18 months.

## Worries over Maastricht damage sterling

By COLIN NARBROUGH AND WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

CENTRAL banks across Europe stand ready to attack the mark after its steady advance that yesterday pushed the pound and other currencies close to their absolute floors in the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM).

Forceful intervention to thwart the progress of the mark, deploying the central banks' huge official reserves, will be the first line of defence against the mounting pressure the German currency is exerting on the rest of the parity grid. Only if intervention fails to force the mark to retreat are the British and other governments expected to bite the bullet and raise domestic interest rates.

Sterling dropped sharply to a low of DM2.7812 yesterday afternoon, its weakest since ERM entry in autumn 1990, after an opinion poll that showed 51 per cent of the French were ready to vote against ratification of the Maastricht treaty. Sterling's absolute floor against the mark, anchor currency of the ERM, is DM2.7780.

The stock market continued to suffer from fears about weaker sterling and the threat of a base rate increase from the current 10 per cent. The FT-SE 100 index, down 50 at one point, closed 30.1 lower at 2,281. Gift-edged stocks ended about a half point down after a volatile day before today's auction.

In the money market, the three month interbank lending rate closed 1/8 firmer at 10 7/8 per cent. This indicated expectations that Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, will be forced to raise the base rate by about a full point.

After the Chancellor called on John Major to discuss the current situation, the Treasury made it clear that the govern-

ment remains committed to its ERM band and rules out any devaluation of sterling. Current pressures, in the government view, represent a "mark problem", a spokesman said.

When sterling reaches its mark floor, which currency analysts think likely today, the Bank of England will be obliged to sell marks for pounds, drawing down its currency war chest of \$45 billion at the last count. The Bundesbank is also obliged under ERM rules to supply unlimited marks to replenish the British supply.

A later French poll, which pointed to 51 per cent in favour of the Maastricht treaty, helped the pound to regain some ground. At the official London close at 4pm, sterling was back at DM2.7923.

Although no intervention was detected yesterday from most leading central banks, the Bank of Italy stepped in to support the lira at the fixing. The Portuguese and Spanish authorities were also obliged to step in to prop up their currencies. The Belgian franc, meanwhile, climbed to the top of the ERM yesterday, overtaking the peseta.

The dollar, whose virtual free fall last week unleashed the current turbulence in world foreign exchange markets, had a surprisingly good day, despite the absence of support action. In London, it closed at DM1.4025, having been as low as DM1.3940 during the day. Against the pound, the dollar closed slightly firmer than on Monday at \$1.9935.

Interest rates may have to rise in Britain, Italy, and possibly even in France, according to European financial analysts, after French opinion polls yesterday pointed towards a dead heat in the

referendum on the Maastricht treaty on September 20.

These market jitters reflect fears that a no vote would kill the treaty and would lead to a massive flight into the German mark. But despite these fears, there is wide agreement among economists that European governments will not allow a realignment of the ERM before the French vote.

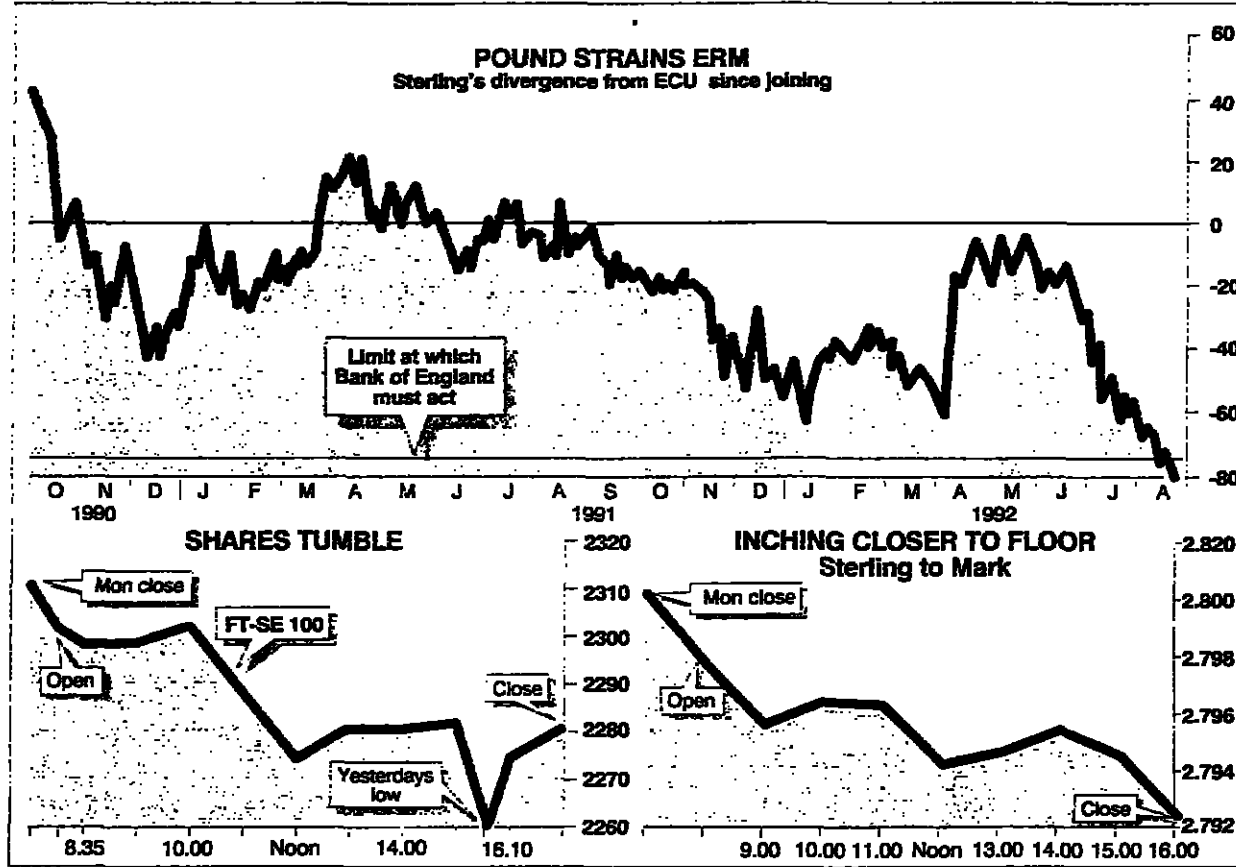
Nigel Rendall, of James Capel, said the likelihood of a British and Italian rate rise has risen strongly with yesterday's opinion polls. "Even the French may come under considerable pressure to raise rates, although the franc has a small safety margin, and they may just get away with it." But he added that he saw little chance of a realignment even in the case of a French no vote.

"The case for a realignment is difficult to make even after a no vote, because others would want to stick with their parties against the mark."

He said the Benelux countries are most certain to do so, and yesterday even the Bank of Italy indicated its opposition to a realignment. France is also set against devaluation, in which case a realignment would be no more than a euphemism for a straight-forward sterling devaluation.

Ify Islam, currency analyst at BZW, said that "if the French vote 'no', all the weak currency countries will raise rates rather than agree to a realignment." In London, expectations of higher interest rates were reflected in the price of currency future contracts. The September sterling contract implies an interest rate of close to 11 per cent, while the three month sterling contract discounted an interest rate of 10.8 per cent.

Comment, page 19



## £280m Canary Wharf claim rejected

By ANGELA MACKAY

ERNST & Young, Canary Wharf's administrator, has rejected a £280 million claim from Credit Suisse First Boston relating to the Wall Street bank's building in the scheme in Cabot Square. The bank has been told by the administrator that it will have to pursue its claim in the courts.

A meeting of creditors of Olympia & York Canary Wharf Ltd was told by Ernst & Young yesterday that a CSFB subsidiary, Glenstreet Property Development, had tried to bring the claim as an unsecured creditor. One of the administrators, Stephen Adamson, said the claim had been rejected because it was based on "certain contingencies" that had to be adjudicated by a court.

CSFB bought a 999-year lease on the 550,000 sq ft building, known as FC1, and are scheduled to move in at the beginning of next year. Last night, CSFB was unable to

comment on the claim. About 250 of a possible 650 unsecured creditors to the main trading company attended the meeting and agreed to continue the process of administration. Canary Wharf was placed in administration in May owing at least £625 million after O&Y, its parent, failed to reschedule its debts of \$1.1 billion.

The administrators said that while the attending creditors were owed £52 million, the project's banks have estimated that of the £567 million they are owed, about £70 million is unsecured. The banks are thought to be assessing whether the amount

should rise. Three of Canary Wharf's banks, Barclays, Lloyds and CIBC, were put on the creditors' committee.

Mr Adamson said that he had agreed "more than 10" confidentiality agreements with interested investors but talks were preliminary. The government, he added, was adamant that any deal must include a £400 million contribution to the extension of the Jubilee Line and that this reduced the number of possible investors.

In June, the administrators said they had six interested parties but since then, one of them, Hanson, had withdrawn. Only one cash bid, put

together by O&Y's founder Paul Reichmann, is on the table from a group of Wall Street financiers. But the banks are reticent about the proposal because it involves a reshuffling of creditor priority.

Professional costs of the administration were between £800,000 and £900,000 a month. Of the £10 million provided by the club banks to fund the administration until the end of the year, £8 million is still available, Mr Adamson said. The administrators have not let new space since their appointment, but Mr Adamson said they had made offers relating to more than 1 million sq ft.

## British Gas makes second-quarter loss



Into the red: Cedric Brown reports loss of £17 million.

BRITISH Gas has dipped into the red, losing £17 million in the second quarter compared with a profit of £247 million one year ago. The company warned its shareholders that profits for the full year are likely to be lower than in 1991 unless there is a prolonged cold spell (George Stowell writes).

For the first half, historical cost profits before tax fell from £1,307 million to £915 million. Cedric Brown, the new chief executive, said 70 per cent of the fall was down to an unusually warm second quarter against a colder than normal second quarter in 1991. The rest of the fall was pinned on increased competition to British Gas in the industrial supply market.

British Gas estimates it has

lost 30 per cent of this market to competition. It was a dispute over the rates charged to rivals for using the British Gas pipelines that led to the recently announced monopolies commission enquiry.

Despite the profits fall, British Gas is to pay shareholders a dividend of 6.4p for the first half. Because of a change in the year end from March to December there is no directly comparable dividend. But analysts estimate an equivalent dividend would have been 6p for last year's first half. The company emphasised that the policy remained to increase the dividend in real terms and there was "no reason to change this policy at this stage".

Comment, page 19

## Computer runs up errors, with interest

By RODNEY HOBSON

THE odd 9p I can stand. I reckon NatWest Bank needs it more than I do. So when I was charged 9p interest on a Gold Plus Access account with £1,200 outstanding, it seemed churlish to complain.

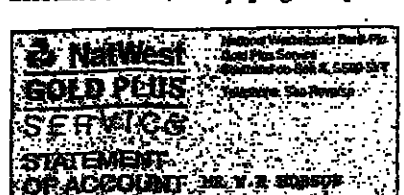
After all, other cardholders paying £70 a year for the privilege of flashing gold plastic under the noses of waiters and shop assistants had suffered worse at the hands of the Access computer.

Alas, it is clear that last month's problems with NatWest's new computer software are still with us. This month, my statement saw a further interest charge of 99p on July 29, only for the £1.08 total interest to be credited back to the account two days later.

However, an account that is cleared each month by direct debit cannot, in

theory, have any overdue amounts or any interest charges at all.

What happened next is an interesting insight into how the electronic mind works. In a fit of remorse, the computer helped itself to the correct amount from my bank account. It had no idea what to do about that 9p. So it slapped on to my latest statement a late payment charge of £237p, a punishment inflicted on the account holder for not paying the 9p that



Gold card: paying for privilege

the computer had wrongly awarded itself and then failed to collect.

The heavily engaged telephone help line admits: "The problem is on-going. Hopefully we are on the last leg and it is settling down."

NatWest changed its computer system in July, introducing software designed to cut down fraud. It wrote to gold card holders, who need an income of £25,000 to qualify, three weeks ago to explain the difficulties.

NatWest says most problems have been solved. It decided to let statements go out with errors rather than interrupt the flow. "We felt cardholders would want to be aware of the charges they had run up." The late payment charge has been wiped off my account, I am assured. The problem will be completely resolved by September.

That's definite. I think.

US dollar  
1.9935 (-0.0020)  
German mark  
2.7923 (-0.0078)  
Exchange index  
92.3 (-0.1)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKETS  
FT 30 share  
1681.0 (-32.7)  
FT-SE 100  
2281.0 (-30.1)  
New York Dow Jones  
3226.01 (-2.16)\*  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave  
16380.77 (-247.19)

INTEREST RATES  
London: Bank Base: 10%  
3-month interbank: 10 1/2-10 3/4%  
3-month eligible bills: 10 1/2-10 3/4%  
US: Prime Rate: 6%  
Federal Funds: 3 1/2%  
3-month Treasury Bill: 3.15-3.14%  
30-year bond: 9 7/8-9 7/8%

CURRENCIES  
London: New York  
£: \$1.9935  
£: DM1.4005\*  
£: Sfr2.4860  
£: Sfr4.7805\*  
£: FF9.5275  
£: Yen124.85\*  
Index 92.3  
ECU: £0.72513 SDR: £0.745639  
ECU: £0.72513 SDR: £0.745639  
London Forex market close

COMMODITIES  
London Fading  
AM 3940.25 PM 3941.40  
Close 3941.00-3941.20  
£171.25-172.25  
New York  
Cornex \$341.35-341.85\*

CRUDE OIL  
Brent (Oct) \$19.85/bbl (\$20.05)

RETAIL PRICES  
RPI: 138.8 July (1987=100)  
\* Denotes midday trading price

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**BY MATTHEW BOND**

The company's interest bill during the year was £12.7 million, but about £7 million

A revaluation of the company's £20 million investment portfolio produced no further reduction in value.



**BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT**

The order will be for the latest version of the aircraft, the short take-off and landing Harrier AV-8B Plus, developed by McDonnell Douglas with Italian and Spanish part-

Centre and rear fuselage sections for the £20 million plane will be built by BAE at Brough, Humberside, and Dunsfold, Surrey. The contract will help to secure jobs at the two plants. Rolls-Royce, which provides the Pegasus engine to power the Harrier

Italy has already bought two training versions of the Harrier to prepare pilots to fly the warplanes from the new carrier Giuseppe Garibaldi. Because the Italian navy will

need a shore-based back-up squadron, it is thought likely that Italy might order more Harriers later. Spain, the third partner in the development programme, has yet to place an order for aircraft.

Other versions of the Harrier are in operation with the Royal Navy, the US Marine Corps and the Indian navy and the aircraft saw combat service in the Gulf war. Rolls-Royce makes the power-plants for all variants.

**THE Mersey Docks and Harbour Company.** In which the government retains a 20 per cent shareholding, increased interim profits from £5.46 million before tax to £7.63 million after a 15 per cent rise in the volume of cargo handled by the Port of Liverpool. With volumes rising to 13 million tonnes in the six months to end-June, the port enjoyed the benefit of the transfer of operations of Coastal Container Line from Ellesmere Port to the Royal Seaforth container terminal.

Turnover rose from £29.19 million to £42 million after the consolidation for the first time of Merdin Stevedores and Coastal Container Line, both of which operate at lower margins than the core business. Operating profits were £7.78 million, up from £5.6 million. The interim dividend is increased from 2p a share to 2.5p, payable from earnings of 8.12p a share, up from 6.99p.

**TIGHT** control of costs helped pre-tax profits at EFT Group, the Scottish financial services company, advance from £510,000 to £706,000 in the first half of this year. Earnings rose from 1.09p to 1.49p a share and the interim dividend is raised from 0.33p to 0.40p. Total revenue increased from £3.66 million to £3.7 million, with a 13 per cent rise from continuing activities. EFT expects the difficult trading conditions to continue in the second half, but remains "cautiously optimistic".

THE last assault by T Cowie on Henlys, its takeover target, has left the stock market unmoved. With the Cowie shares up 1p to 120p, its seven-for-ten offer values Henlys at 84p. However, the market expects the bid to fail and sellers pushed Henlys down 2p to 65p. Henlys now stands little higher than the 57p level just before the bid was announced. Cowie's bid values the rival motor distributor at £30 million. The offer closes next Tuesday.

**PORTH**, a Christmas decorations company, lost £1.84 million pre-tax (£1.82 million loss) in the six months to June 30. Turnover was £2.76 million (£2.47 million). Restructuring brought exceptional costs of £292,000 (£105,000), but a £3.5 million rights issue last year has reduced interest payable from £423,000 to £180,000. Porth typically makes a first-half loss and the results are in line with expectations. The company has not paid a dividend since June 1990.

erley bi

RECENT ISS







## STOCK MARKET

This put renewed pressure on the pound, which briefly

The news coincided with a 29 per cent drop in net income to £637 million in the first half after the company dropped

this autumn. **Grand Metropolitan**, the drinks and food group, tumbled 34p to 378p, also after issuing a warning indicating that pre-tax profits

The one bright spot in the drinks sector was Gibbs Mew, the USM-quoted regional brewer, which jumped 15p to 198p after a bid approach from Brierley Investments, headed by Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand business-  
man. He plans to offer 200p a share and already owns a stake in the company. But the Gibbs Mew board, accounting for 59 per cent of the shares, rejected the offer.

at more than \$20 billion. There were losses for Commercial Union, 5p to 448p. General Accident, 8p to 409p. Guardian Royal Exchange, 3p to 126p, and Sun Alliance, 7p to 217p. But Royal Insurance, which fell sharply on Monday on suggestions that it had the biggest exposure to America, rallied 3p to 143p.

MICHAEL CLARK

# TEMPUS

Prudent the refinancing may have been, but it was overshadowed by the trading update. The good news was that sales at Pillsbury, the American food subsidiary, were 7 per cent up on a year ago. The bad news was that

At 379p, the shares are on a price/earnings multiple of over 12, which with dividend cover of 2.5 times and interest cover of over 10 times, looks attractive.

The group acquired Tace and Goring Kerr in 1991, and is a leader in the field of identifying foreign objects in food — a growing market under tougher health legislation. Graseby is working on the definitive detection of Semtex, the explosive, while



Pre-tax profits at £4.56 million for the six months to end June compare with £5.08 million previously. The inter-

But some profits setback is inevitable, and £9.5 million against £10.3 million would leave a maintained 10.9p dividend thinly covered. At 133p, down 34p, the 10.9 per cent yield lends some support to a share that will shine once economies improve.

**THERE** must be a touch of sympathy for Bridon, the Doncaster manufacturer of wire rope products, which has quite innocently been caught up in corruption inquiries in Italy. Not that Bridon has done anything wrong: far from it. But it seems that Italian contractors, fearing they may not be paid if inquiries into alleged corruption by Italian public officials bear fruit, have put their

seems, is to sweat it out while doing a bit of pruning. Staff numbers were reduced 13 per cent to 4,700 at a cost of £4 million in the last financial year, and the company says more cuts are inevitable. Ironically, it is lower redundancy costs of £500,000 in the past six months — compared

with an exceptional item of £2.7 million last time — that are behind the gains in pre-tax profits and boosted earnings per share to 1.3p (0.2p). The interim dividend falls to 1.25p (2.5p) a share. Bridon expects to be one of the last out of the recession, so shareholders are in for a long wait.

The company is expected to make £2 million for the year and pay a total dividend of 4p, putting the shares on a new prospective yield of 9.5 per cent at yesterday's price of 56p, down 1p.

sphere of gloom sent the

WALL

STREET

|    |    |    |                 |    |    |
|----|----|----|-----------------|----|----|
| 35 | 38 | 38 | Pac Telecom     | 43 | 41 |
| 36 | 39 | 39 | Pall Corp       | 26 | 29 |
| 37 | 39 | 39 | Pandemic East   | 17 | 17 |
| 38 | 39 | 39 | Papageno Comm   | 42 | 42 |
| 39 | 39 | 39 | Parker Hannifin | 38 | 38 |
| 40 | 39 | 39 | Parsons         | 66 | 65 |
| 41 | 39 | 39 | Parsons         | 51 | 52 |
| 42 | 39 | 39 | Paxson          | 37 | 37 |
| 43 | 39 | 39 | Pfizer          | 79 | 80 |
| 44 | 39 | 39 | Phelps Dodge    | 47 | 47 |
| 45 | 39 | 39 | Philadel Elec   | 36 | 36 |
| 46 | 39 | 39 | Phillips        | 74 | 74 |
| 47 | 39 | 39 | Phillips Morris | 74 | 75 |

[illegible]

| MONEY MARKETS   |                   |                   |             |              |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 92.3 (day's range 92.3-92.4). |                   |                   |             |              |
| STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES   |                   |                   |             |              |
| Mkt Rates for Aug 25  | Range             | Close             | 1 month     | 3 month      |
| Copenhagen  | 3,144.2-3,150.0   | 3,144.2-3,147.8   | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3 1/2-4pr    |
| Bremen  | 1,774.2-1,775.0   | 1,774.2-1,775.0   | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3 1/2-4pr    |
| Frankfurt   | 10,762.0-10,820.0 | 10,762.0-10,780.0 | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3 1/2-4pr    |
| London  | 2,482.8-2,485.9   | 2,482.8-2,485.9   | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3 1/2-4pr    |
| Madrid  | 180.92-181.74     | 180.92-181.74     | 45-175ds    | 145-150ds    |
| Milan   | 2126.00-2143.50   | 2126.00-2143.50   | 40-90ds     | 120-135ds    |
| Montreal  | 2,363.5-2,372.0   | 2,363.5-2,368.8   | 1 1/2-1pr   | 2,222-1,15pr |
| New York  | 1,967.5-1,970.0   | 1,967.5-1,968.0   | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3,53-3,51pr  |
| Oaks  | 11,013.0-11,080.0 | 11,013.0-11,030.0 | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3,53-3,51pr  |
| Paris   | 5,520.00-5,570.00 | 5,520.00-5,530.00 | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3,53-3,51pr  |
| Stockholm   | 10,140.0-10,170.0 | 10,140.0-10,160.0 | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3,53-3,51pr  |
| Zurich  | 2,487.00-2,490.05 | 2,487.00-2,488.43 | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3,53-3,51pr  |
| Source: Edel  | 2,487.00-2,488.07 | 2,483.5-2,486.7   | 1 1/2-1pr   | 3,53-3,51pr  |
| Premium - pr. Discount - ds   |                   |                   |             |              |
| OTHER STERLING  |                   |                   |             |              |
| Argentine peso*   | 1,968.6-1,971.6   |                   |             |              |
| Australia   |                   |                   | 1,223-1,212 |              |

|                                |                 |               |               |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Bahrain dinar                  | 0.747-0.753     | Belgium (Com) | 28.95-28.96   |
| Brazil cruzeiro                | 9722-7497.73.04 | Canada        | 1.1891-1.1890 |
| Cyprus pound                   | 0.604-0.613     | Costa Rica    | 5.485-5.4500  |
| Finland mark                   | 7.92-7.78       | France        | 6.050-6.049   |
| Green dracma                   | 345.27-346.1    | Germany       | 4.4047-4.4055 |
| Hong Kong dollar               | 15.378-15.377   | Hong Kong     | 7.87-7.86     |
| India rupee                    | 56.25-56.51     | Indonesia     | 1882.0-1887.0 |
| Japanese yen                   | 160.36-160.35   | Israel        | 7.075-7.076   |
| Malaysia RMG                   | 4.9458-4.9504   | Italy         | 121.90-121.91 |
| Malaysian dollar               | 6.000-6.000     | Japan         | 2.4865-2.487  |
| Mexican peso                   | 16.43-16.44     | Malaysia      | 2.5950-2.576  |
| Saudi Arabian riyal            | 7.4315-7.1582   | Norway        | 1.5860-1.5860 |
| Singapore dollar               | 7.360-7.360     | Netherlands   | 123.15-123.35 |
| Sri Lanka rupee                | 20.00-20.00     | Portugal      | 200.00-200.00 |
| S. Africa rand (fin)           | 7.3907-7.3905   | Spain         | 161.00-161.00 |
| S. Africa rand (com)           | 5.4916-5.4985   | Sweden        | 91.20-91.20   |
| S. Africa rand (ind)           | 5.424-5.425     | Switzerland   | 5.1440-5.1450 |
| Bankers Club CTS - Liquid Bank |                 | Switzerland   | 2.490-1.2500  |

| MONEY RATES 10%  |                   |                |                |                |                |                 |
|--|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Base Rates Clearing Banks 10%  | Finance House 10% | Low 7          | Much fixed: 9% |                |                |                 |
| Discount (Banker) Loans Overnight 10%  |                   |                |                |                |                |                 |
| Treasury Bills (Clearing) 2 month 10% 3 month 10% 6 month 10% 9 month 10% 12 month 10% |                   |                |                |                |                |                 |
| Prime Bank Bills (Dist)  | 10%-9%            | 2 month 10%-9% | 3 month 10%-9% | 6 month 10%-9% | 9 month 10%-9% | 12 month 10%-9% |
| Clearing Money Rates   | 10%-10%           | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%         |
| Overnight: open 9%, close 7%   |                   |                |                |                |                |                 |
| Local Authority Deps   | 10%-10%           | n/a            | n/a            | n/a            | n/a            | n/a             |
| Securities Cdn   | 10%-10%           | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%         |
| Banking Cdn  | 3.33-3.27         | n/a            | 3.37-3.32      | 3.47-3.42      | n/a            | n/a             |
| Investment Grade Cdn   | 10%-10%           | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%        | 10%-10%         |

BOGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Financing, Make-up date: July 31, 1992 agreed rates from 26, 1992 to 1992 to Sept 22, 1992 Scheme II 11.27%, Scheme III 11.46%, Reference rates from July 1, 1992 to July 31, 1992 Scheme IV & V: 10.189%.

| EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS 11.46% |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Currency                       | 7 day   | 1 month | 3 month | 6 month | Call    |
| Dollar                         | 3%-2%   | 3%-3%   | 3%-3%   | 3%-3%   | 3%-3%   |
| Deutsche Mark                  | 9%-9%   | 9%-9%   | 9%-9%   | 9%-9%   | 9%-9%   |
| Swiss Franc                    | 10%-10% | 10%-10% | 10%-10% | 10%-10% | 10%-10% |
| French Franc                   | 7%-7%   | 7%-7%   | 7%-7%   | 7%-7%   | 7%-7%   |
| Italian Lira                   | 4%-4%   | 4%-4%   | 4%-4%   | 4%-4%   | 4%-4%   |

| GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (A's Gain & L's Loss) |                                   |                       |                      |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Settles: Open \$340.80-341.20                  | Close \$341.00-341.50             | High: \$341.30-341.80 | Low: \$339.50-340.00 |
| Gold \$299.00-299.60                           | Kingsman: \$299.00-299.60         | High: \$299.00-299.60 | Low: \$298.00-298.60 |
| Overseas: Gold \$79.00-81.00 (\$39.75-40.75)   | Net \$81.00-83.00 (\$40.25-41.75) |                       |                      |



JP 11 62 150

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26 1992

WORLD MARKETS

umer report  
es in New

WALL STREET

## Franc and lira in ERM trouble too

Should the French vote "non" to the Maastricht treaty, John Major and Norman Lamont seem likely to face a simple alternative: either they raise interest rates or resign. Even with nearly four weeks to go before the referendum, opinion polls showing the French equally divided sent a simple message to the foreign exchanges to buy marks, pushing sterling within a pence of its limit against the key currency and even nearer its limit against the Belgian franc. The Chancellor has absolutely rejected leaving the ERM or devaluing sterling within it. The prime minister has committed himself to maintaining a DM2.95 central parity whatever happens to other currencies. The market, however, thinks the pound's rate against the mark is commercially unrealistic.

The trickier question facing Major and Lamont is whether to rely on the reserves or raise interest rates temporarily before the referendum. Since the government is so wholly committed to sterling's parity, the Bank of England should regard buying pounds with the foreign exchange reserves as offering, eventually, a certain profit. The Bank was buying selectively yesterday rather than mounting large-scale support. If sterling fell to its limit, the Bank can borrow virtually without limit from the Bundesbank and other ERM central banks to fulfil its obligation to buy, but only for three months. The risk is that an eventual interest rate rise might have to be larger and reserves would be depleted.

The Chancellor's potential trump card, however, is that sterling is no longer the only ERM currency in trouble. The lira, weakest of the currencies in the narrow band, is right up against its cross limits in the grid and the French franc is also entering the danger zone. A French non would almost certainly trigger a run to the mark against the currencies of all ERM countries outside the closely linked Benelux countries. They should press the Bundesbank to take the referendum risk with a temporary cut in German interest rates. If the Germans say no, they will have to face a flood of marks created by intervention that will need to be sterilised. They will also be shown to be inviting, in the most positive way, French rejection of the treaty. The Bundesbank may be independent. It is not meant to act as a political force.

## Humble gasmen

British Gas, in the limbo of a full monopolies commission enquiry, sought to please everyone yesterday — its shareholders with a decent dividend increase and its customers with a further price cut that need not have been brought in until sometime next year. Even Cedric Brown, the new chief executive, conceded yesterday that British Gas's traditional image of being "bureaucratic, slow to change and averse to competition may be based on some reality". He expressed no doubt that the company will change in the future.

In the hands of the monopolies commission it almost certainly will, but the regulatory inroads already show. British Gas, unlike the electricity industry, was privatised in one huge lump and sold itself in the prospectus as the "largest integrated gas supply business in the western world". But the giant is being humbled and 30 per cent of the industrial supply market has already been lost. Mr Brown said that British Gas was "not risk free". He identified the risks as weather, competition and recession. However, the cost cutting will have to go on hold. He said that for the next nine to twelve months British Gas would be "fiddling around the edges in terms of cost cutting, which is unfortunate because there are things we need to do and should be doing". Despite the handicaps he looks certain to make the best of what the monopolies commission leaves behind.

William Kay takes a close look at the problems, created by competition, recession and diversification, facing the retailer

Today, W H Smith is the latest leading retailer to report on how it is weathering the recession. It does so against a steady trickle of selling that has taken the group's share price dangerously near to its low point for the year.

The reasons for investor anxiety are not difficult to fathom. As the country's premier retailer of small luxuries and posh necessities, it is more exposed than most to the brunt of the recession. And since the 1960s it has had to fight an increasingly tense struggle with competitors whose greatest advantage is that they have not been around for 200 years.

These pressures are only exacerbated by its other activities: newspaper wholesaling, office supplies, do-it-yourself stores and American hotel and airport shops. Paul Morris of Goldman Sachs, the analyst with arguably the closest knowledge of the group, says: "They are tied to the economic cycle and that is still pointing downwards."

Sir Simon Hornby, the group's chairman for the past ten years, is not one to be bogged down in short-term considerations, however. "If you look at our business overall, I feel very optimistic," he insists. "We are in a deep recession, but I see growth potential in all our businesses. You have to have the confidence to say that on the other side there is a bright future. I never believe in doing things if you don't see a bright future."

Sir Simon, an elegant product of Eton, Oxford, Harvard and the Grenadier Guards, has presided over one of the most difficult decades in the group's history. His family is intimately tied up with that history: his grandfather joined the firm 99 years ago.

The company's tale is a long and romantic one — it celebrates its bicentenary this year. The Times, founded seven years earlier, was leading the huge expansion of the London press at that time, effectively creating the newspaper trade.

That prospect attracted Henry and Anna Smith, parents of William Henry, the eponymous W H. They took a shop in Little Grosvenor Street and established what was then termed a newsstand — the equivalent of today's paper round. Henry died within a fortnight and William Henry was only 24 when Anna died.

W H rapidly expanded the operation, branching out into other parts of London and later, seizing on the opportunity to establish bookshops on station platforms when the railway network was laid down from the 1840s onwards.

So Smith was one of the first national retail names to be embedded in the British public consciousness. The timing of the company's



Long-sighted: in spite of the recession, Sir Simon Hornby, W H Smith chairman, sees a bright future

most important growth imbued it with Victorian values of honesty and reliability that served it well, at least for the first half of this century.

However, by the 1960s Smith began to look stuffy. It was where the aunts and uncles of the new generation of shoppers bought bland and inoffensive cards and presents for their nieces and nephews.

So the group embarked on a series of takeovers designed to widen its appeal. The strategy was that the Smith chain would retain its long-standing qualities of dependability, even if it was a shade predictable, while tapping trendier pockets by acquiring Our Price, Paperchase, Waterstone's and Virgin Records.

"The record of the company is one of great potential unfulfilled," says Zak Keshavjee, of Williams de Broe, the stockbroker.

Sir Simon said: "People say that W H Smith is accident prone, but we're prepared to try new things and take risks, in a way that manufacturing companies are always trying new products and failing, often at a heavy

cost. The public never see that, but unfortunately in retailing it's difficult to disguise it."

Critics point to Waterstone's as a symbol of how the Smith management was losing its touch. Tim Waterstone had joined Smith in 1973, after earning his marketing spurs with Allied Breweries. He rose to be chairman of W H Smith (USA) by 1978, but fell out with his bosses three years later. He fulfilled every frustrated executive's dream by starting a chain of bookshops in competition with Smith — and in 1989 they paid him the ultimate compliment of buying a controlling 50.5 per cent of Waterstone's for £9 million.

As Sir Simon puts it: "Tim Waterstone developed an imaginative approach to specialist bookselling, and the merger will create a bookselling business of the highest quality. What we didn't see, which Tim did, was that if you have the very big shops you get the sales."

Inevitably, as Smith is a group that

does best what it knows best, some of its more ambitious forays have had to be undone. It has pulled out of retail travel shops within shops, and cable and satellite television.

Do it All, its DIY chain, has been merged with Boots's Payless to form a jointly owned third force. It is a defensive move that may not be enough to beat the recession.

"I think that bringing the two companies together was strategically the right thing to do," Sir Simon argues, "because it's given us the national coverage which neither company had before. The market is obviously very depressed, because the housing market is depressed, and people spend money on their houses when they move. Because of that there is intense price cutting, particularly between B&Q and Texas. My experience of price wars is that eventually people see how futile they are, and stop."

The threat of a price war is also hanging over Smith's traditional book business, thanks to the campaign by Terry Maher, the chairman

of Pentos, to break the net book agreement. Pentos owns the Dillons bookshop chain. Smith is quietly gaining valuable experience of a free market in books, through its American operations, while stoutly opposing Mr Maher in Britain.

"Prices have had to go up in the States," reports Sir Simon, "so that the shops can then discount them. I'm quite clear that what the public really wants in bookselling is availability. Why I'm so opposed to the end of the NBA is I know it will put prices up."

He sees little change in the formula for the core business, of selling magazines, books, stationery and music, although he bemoans the current stagnation in popular music.

Paul McCartney and the founder members of the Rolling Stones are all within ten years of Sir Simon's age — 57. Elton John is 45. Even the top-selling Michael Jackson is a relatively whiskery 32. "There isn't a new sound coming through," Sir Simon says, "but that will evolve. Suddenly there'll be a burst of new sounds. So it's going through a difficult stage, which is really driven by technical change and fashion, and there's been a temporary blip in the prime buying age of 16 to 24. But I'm very confident of the music market in the long term, I really am."

Meanwhile, he has had to cope with a revolution in another core business: newspaper wholesaling. Distribution has been the hidden lifeblood of Smith, dating back to the stagecoach era and not to be confused with retail newspapers — an activity Smith withdrew from long ago. Until the late 1970s distribution accounted for more than half the group's turnover. But it was strongly unionised and dependent on the railways.

When Rupert Murdoch took his newspapers, including The Times, to Wapping in 1986 he had to establish a distribution system that was union-free. So he signed contracts with road hauliers, principally the Australian-owned TNT and BRS Newsflow, part of NCC. Other newspaper publishers followed suit, giving them a much stronger position in negotiations with distributors like Smith.

Consequently, the publishers increased their profit margins at the expense of wholesalers, who also had to invest to compete. In Smith's case, the bill was £24 million for sophisticated new information systems and a reshaped distribution network. In the long run, this should pay good dividends, for computerisation allows closer analysis of sales trends and retailer behaviour — valuable information that can be used and sold. "A hundred years of change has been telescoped into five years," says Bob Simpson, managing director of W H Smith News.

Sir Simon's next, and possibly last, major project is to decide whether Smith ought to expand into other parts of Europe. "We're looking at it very carefully," he confirms, "probably as a joint venture for each country. Shareholders will be hoping that this project works out more happily than some of Smith's other attempts to stay ahead of the game."

## BUSINESS LETTERS

### Backing Cadbury can spread high standards of corporate governance

From Mr Maurice Hunt

Sir, Robert Bruce's faint praise of the CBI clearly does not extend to the corporate sector in his piece on the Cadbury Code (August 13). Unfortunately, his lack of goodwill (in the non-accounting sense) seems to be based on a number of misunderstandings.

The CBI believes that disclosure of an annual compliance statement such as a Stock Exchange listing obligation would be an expensive aid to compliance. Boards accustomed to the Yellow Book know that statements issued without meticulous care can seriously damage the health of a company and its shareholders. For that reason, chairmen would probably have their compliance statement checked by lawyers, and they in turn would want to know exactly what directors were signing

up to: the Code of Best Practice alone, or the Cadbury Committee's accompanying recommendations and explanatory memorandum as well? They do not all say exactly the same thing, and before we knew it there would be calls for interpretative notes and authoritative rulings. Shareholders might think there were better ways for senior management and their advisers to spend their time.

Governments cannot legislate for good corporate governance, but shareholders, especially institutional ones, can insist upon it if they choose to; and there is growing evidence that they now do, when they believe that changes in board structure or operation are needed.

Pressure for compliance is more likely to come through this route than a formal statement in the annual report and accounts. Cadbury rightly sees his Code of Best Practice as a checklist for board and investors, which has to be applied in a way sensitive to companies' individual circumstances, rather than as a close proxy for statute.

To put it another way, the success of a board is more likely to be a matter of personal chemistry than something designed through a mechanism such as a two-tier board. Independent directors may be a check and balance to a powerful individual or group of executives, but they ought to be much more besides, bringing a wider perspective and range of experience to the development of business strategy.

While the two-tier board can work in other business cultures, that is no reason to suppose that it would enhance company profits or avoid corporate failures here. After all, the Japanese, who have sustained their economic success for as long as the Germans and are skilful in borrowing and adapting ideas from elsewhere, have stuck to their version of the unitary board.

Cadbury's draft report has already been influential in causing boards to look again at their composition and method of working. If it is sensibly applied and backed by institutional shareholders, it will spread the standards of corporate governance practised by the best companies.

Yours sincerely,  
MAURICE HUNT,  
Deputy Director-General and Secretary,  
Confederation of British Industry,  
Centre Point,  
103 New Oxford Street,  
WC1.

### Shotgun shopping

From Mr Bernard Keeffe

Sir, Mr Miller rightly points out that British banks' high interest rates can hardly be said to increase consumer confidence (Business Letters August 19). There is even stronger discouragement elsewhere. A spokesman for one of our largest retailers of electronic goods in a broadcast this week appealed to the government to reduce interest rates, which, he claimed, were discouraging customers from entering his shops. This chain at present charges 32.9 per cent on credit purchases. With inflation below 4 per cent, this represents a real charge of between 28 and 29 per cent. This perhaps could be described as a shot-in-foot situation.

Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD KEEFFE  
103 Honor Oak Road,  
SE23

### Getting vexed over vexillology and flying the wrong flag of Japan

From Mr Peter Bartlett

Sir, In the first column of Business Times (August 19) you have depicted what I can only assume you believe to be the national flag of Japan.

In fact what you have shown is the naval ensign, sometimes referred to as the "war ensign".

This design was adopted on November 3, 1889.

The national flag of Japan is a simple red disc on a white ground which is usually called the Hino-Marui and was officially adopted on August 5, 1853, largely in response to the arrival of Commodore Matthew C. Perry, of the United States Navy, in that

year. The red disc (Hino Marui) is, as the chrysanthemum, a most heraldic device widely recognised for centuries in Japan.

The design of the sun with its rays, as you have shown, is I believe known as Asahi — as adopted by Pentax as part of

their name! Vexillology can be an absorbing subject and needs careful attention.

Yours truly,  
PETER G. BARTLETT,  
56, Burfield Road,  
Old Windsor,  
Berkshire.

## THE TIMES

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## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Drinkers' dividend

A CHANGE of strategy by Robert Fleming last autumn is about to pay unexpected dividends for City drinkers. Louise Mayo, the former top-earning member of Fleming's UK and European convertibles and UK warrants team, which was closed just more than a year ago, is making an unusual comeback. Mayo, who is reputed to have earned close to £150,000 a year at Fleming's, is now based in Hong Kong where she has been setting up a similar desk for Standard Chartered. She flies in to London later this week, however, for the opening of Flowitts, a new drinking hole in Cannon Street, which she is launching with Tony Marshall, formerly of Prudential-Bache, and Graham Flowitt, former manager of Balls Brothers wine bar in the Great Eastern Hotel. "It is not a pub and not a wine bar," says Mayo. "It's a rare combination of both." The new venue is close to the futures and options exchange at Cannon Bridge and near James Capel's new offices, an unexpected benefit for Mayo, who worked for Capel before joining Fleming and who is looking forward to a reunion with her former colleagues.



copies of the treaty at £3.50 each. Both ardent anti-federalists — Nelson stood for the Anti-Federalist League in the election. Pollard believes W H Smith, which has declined to take copies, "could sell 20,000 easily". Meanwhile, he has scored something of a coup in getting PC Plus, the computer magazine, to give away free copies of his disc of the treaty in its next issue.

### Low key budget

THE Danes might have shaken financial markets with their Maastricht vote, but their budget, has passed unnoticed. Henning Dyrmoose, the finance minister, made the annual budget statement on Monday under an embargo prohibiting mention of it in the press until the following day. Whereas such a move would be unthinkable in Britain, where the Chancellor's statement is pounced on by the City, the Danish budget got by without a single breach of the embargo and, moreover, bare-

ly a mention in the world's press after the embargo was lifted. At lunchtime yesterday, even Kjeld Peterson, the economic councillor at the Danish embassy in London, had failed to catch sight of his government's statement. According to Peterson, the statement is always issued in August, when everyone is on holiday, and politicians do not debate it until the autumn. "I expect I'll probably be sent a copy by the end of the week," Peterson says.

### Radio foresight

WAS Radio 4 tipped off about this week's changes at the TSB? After inviting main banks to put forward panelists for its *Called to Account* programme last Friday, the programme selected only one guest who was not a managing director or equivalent — Peter Ellwood, then head of retailing banking and insurance at TSB and now the bank's chief executive. Keith Vass, editor, denies he had inside knowledge, but is clearly adroit at picking his guests who last week included Sir John Quinlan, of Barclays, just after Barclays' terrible results. Vass says: "Lloyds and National Westminster categorically refused to put anyone forward for the live audience discussion but the TSB just said the chief executive wasn't available." Having seen Ellwood, 48, in action, Vass's first impressions, he says, are that he is "young but impressive. He fielded the questions well and made a very good pitch for his bank."

CAROL LEONARD

### Tenants should see the draft lease first

From Mr Edward Beaumont

Sir, May I add something to the letters (August 13 and 19) about the terms of commercial leases and the duration and extent of the liability of tenants and guarantors.

It is open to prospective tenants to insist — before even viewing a property — on seeing the draft lease, and/or on receiving an unqualified letter from the landlord stating that he is willing to grant a lease having certain basic features (such as a three-year term with tenants' option to extend), and also confirming that if negotiations for a lease take place, the landlord will bear the cost of the fees charged by his own advisers.

There may never be a better time for tenants to start doing this. Most prospective tenants do not consult lawyers until the basic terms have been

fixed, though not necessarily understood. Being committed to pay the landlords' lawyers costs "irrespective of whether the matter proceeds to completion" is the negotiating equivalent of going into the ring with both hands tied behind one's back. Yet tenants do it willingly. Moreover, it is convenient for the legal profession not to disturb the conventions under which landlords provide draft leases and tenants and their solicitors undertake to pay the costs. In particular, these conventions save actual mental effort (the documents being on account and thus avoid all credit risk).

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD BEAUMONT,  
43 Crofton Lane,  
Fareham, Hampshire.

Letters to The Times Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.







John G. 150

The burden of the uniform business rate is too much for some owners, Chris Partridge reports

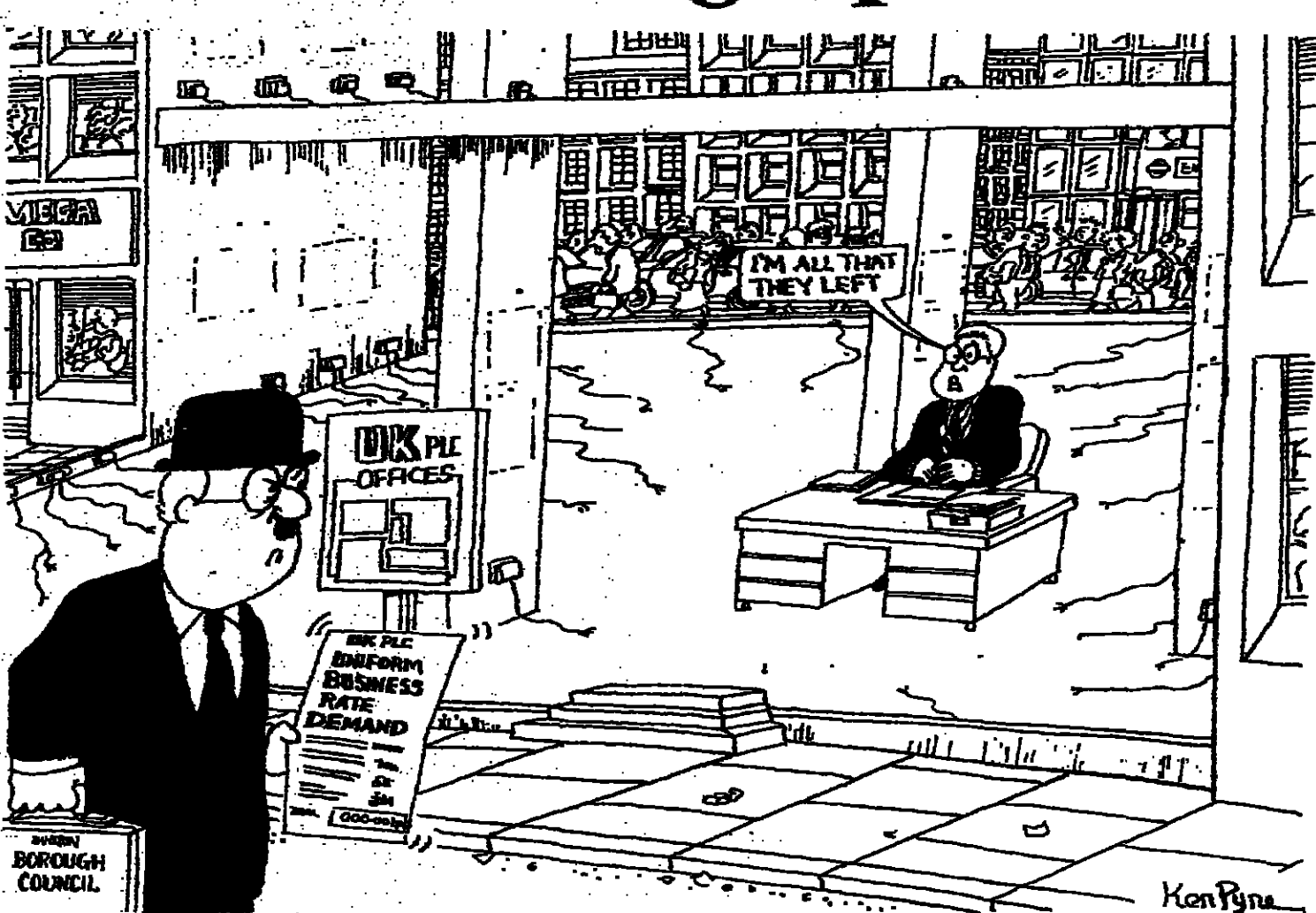
# Vandalism in high places

Property owners, already suffering from the effects of the slump in lettings, have resorted to "constructive vandalism", gutting their empty office buildings, to avoid having to pay the uniform business rate. Now, to escape local authority charges that can reach up to £1 million per year, owners of other empty offices are even threatening to wreck the facades of buildings in some prime central London sites.

At least six blocks in the City of London have been constructively vandalised by their rate-payers, so that technically they are unfit for occupation and consequently not liable for rates. So far, the damage has been limited to the interiors, by the removal of lights, kitchens, lavatories and any of the facilities that are legally necessary before office workers can use the premises. Externally, the buildings have been properly maintained and the City has agreed that no rates can be charged on the buildings.

Now several developers plan a similarly destructive course of action on their buildings in other London boroughs, notably Westminster. However, they are finding district valuers less willing to co-operate. Therefore, the owners are threatening to destroy the exteriors as well, to make the case for zero rates unanswerable.

The next step is to take the windows out, which would seriously affect the appearance of streets," says a director of one of the property firms that has already gutted a City office building, saving more than £250,000 a year.



Ken Pyne

the liability," Mr Patison says. Buildings that have been subject to constructive vandalism in the City include Armour House, near St Paul's, owned by the St Martin's Property Corporation, which is forced to postpone plans until business conditions improve. However, there are stories in the City that a leading industrial company is about to "vandalise" one of its main office blocks in order to save £1.5 million a year in business rates.

There are any number of office buildings that were ripe for development but are now not viable, and there is no prospect of being able to let them for anything at all," says Michael Soames, a partner in estate agents Knight Frank & Rutley. "We see the problem increasing over the next year unless something is done. It does seem slightly mad to be encouraging vandalism of expensive assets."

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Yet there has been very little official response to constructive vandalism. In a written parliamentary answer

just before the Commons went into recess, Robin Squire, the environment minister, said: "We have no plans to change the law governing the rating of empty property. Empty property benefits from local services and it is right that it should contribute to the costs incurred by local authorities."

"Property whether occupied or empty is rateable if it is capable of beneficial occupation. If owners judge it commercially advantageous to render property unusable, that is a matter for them," Mr Squire estimated that the lost rates from the vandalised properties in the City came to about £3 million a year, compared to a total rate income from empty property in England of about £600 million a year, an amount that will not be easily given up from local authority coffers.

**'The problem will increase over the next year unless something is done'**

## MARKET MOVES

### Venturing in Russia

BOVIS International is to begin work on its first project in Russia. Christopher Warman writes. The company has signed a joint venture agreement with the Moscow State Philharmonic Orchestra and the International Non-Government Foundation-House for Children-Orphans to redevelop three office buildings in central Moscow controlled by the orchestra.

The reconstruction, providing 57,000 sq ft behind the existing facade, will also have scope for the construction of luxury apartments and will be ready for occupation by the end of 1993.

### Half-full Bath

FUTURE Publishing, the Bath company that produces 20 national magazines, has leased all the 15,000 sq ft of offices on the upper floors of Seven Dials, Chancery Lane, next to the Theatre Royal.

John Mulholland, of the agent J.P. Sturge, said that it was probably the most significant office letting in Bath this year. The development is now over 50 per cent let, and negotiations are taking place on several of the shop units.

### Gateway to Kent

THE architectural practice A & DG (Architecture & Design Group) has unveiled design proposals for Ashford's planned international railway station which aims to provide Kent with a gateway building.

A & DG, the now largely independent part of the British Railways Board, plans steel, glass and polished concrete buildings providing 64,000 sq ft of space covering both the international and local stations.

A & DG's previous work includes the award-winning design of Liverpool Street station.

### Bank on Thames

KUMAGAI GUMI, the Japanese civil engineering contractor, has let its entire 190,000 sq ft development, Thames Exchange, north of Southwark Bridge in the City of London, to Midland Bank for the location of the Treasury operations of Midland Bank and Hongkong Bank, as well as the London office of stockbrokers James Capel & Co.

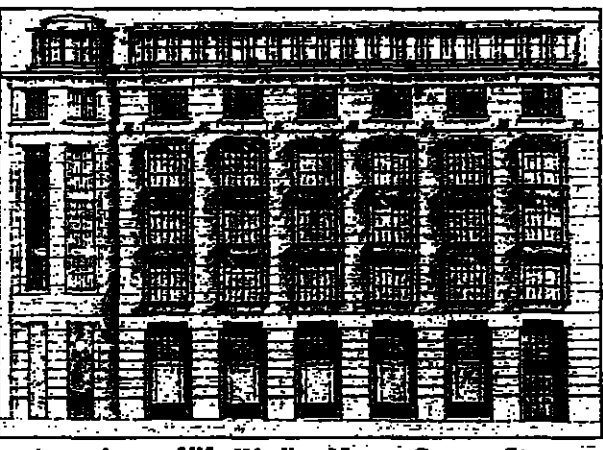
The letting is believed to be the largest in the City, Jones Lang Wootton says.

### Prime property

LOOKING forward to a recovery in the market, Stanhope Properties and the Worshipful Company of Salters have signed an agreement for the redevelopment of Watling House, Cannon Street, in the City of London (pictured below).

Planning consent has been obtained for a new scheme providing 90,000 sq ft of offices with retail, designed by Arup Associates.

The property stands in a prime position in the City, bounded by Bread Street and Watling Street, and the agents Jones Lang Wootton and Knight Frank & Rutley, are seeking a pre-letting of the scheme, which offers the opportunity for the building to be tailored to individual needs.



A new lease of life: Watling House, Cannon Street

## Time is right for investors to move into European market

Investors who stayed away from the commercial property market last year because of the fall in values could be ready to make some strategic purchases to take advantage of the end of the recession.

Dr Angus McIntosh, the head of research at the consultancy, Healey & Baker, says in the newly-published 1992 European Investment Report that the most sought after properties are no longer the land-

**The recession has stifled property investment on the Continent, but as Christopher Warman reports, purchases now could pay dividends**

mark buildings popular in the 1980s. These have proved vulnerable to loss of value during downturns. Proving more popular are the growth locations in markets that are

perceived to have an increasingly important part to play in the European Community. While Germany has been the main target for some time, its popularity in the short term

has suffered because of the difficulties in the country's economy.

Dr McIntosh believes, however, that the downside of the recession has been over-emphasised for those who invest on a medium to long-term basis. "The countries that have benefited have been Portugal and Spain and, to a lesser extent, the UK and France, where there is a perception that bargains are to be obtained despite relatively low levels of occupational demand."

The report also explains how countries will amend legislative practice to permit them to function fully within the EC. Italy, Portugal and Spain should, over the next few years, remove artificial barriers and thus increase their investment appeal.

There is already considerable demand for retail investments in these three markets which, "by international standards, are relatively immature in terms of major retailers and sophisticated real estate investments".

Another investment report,

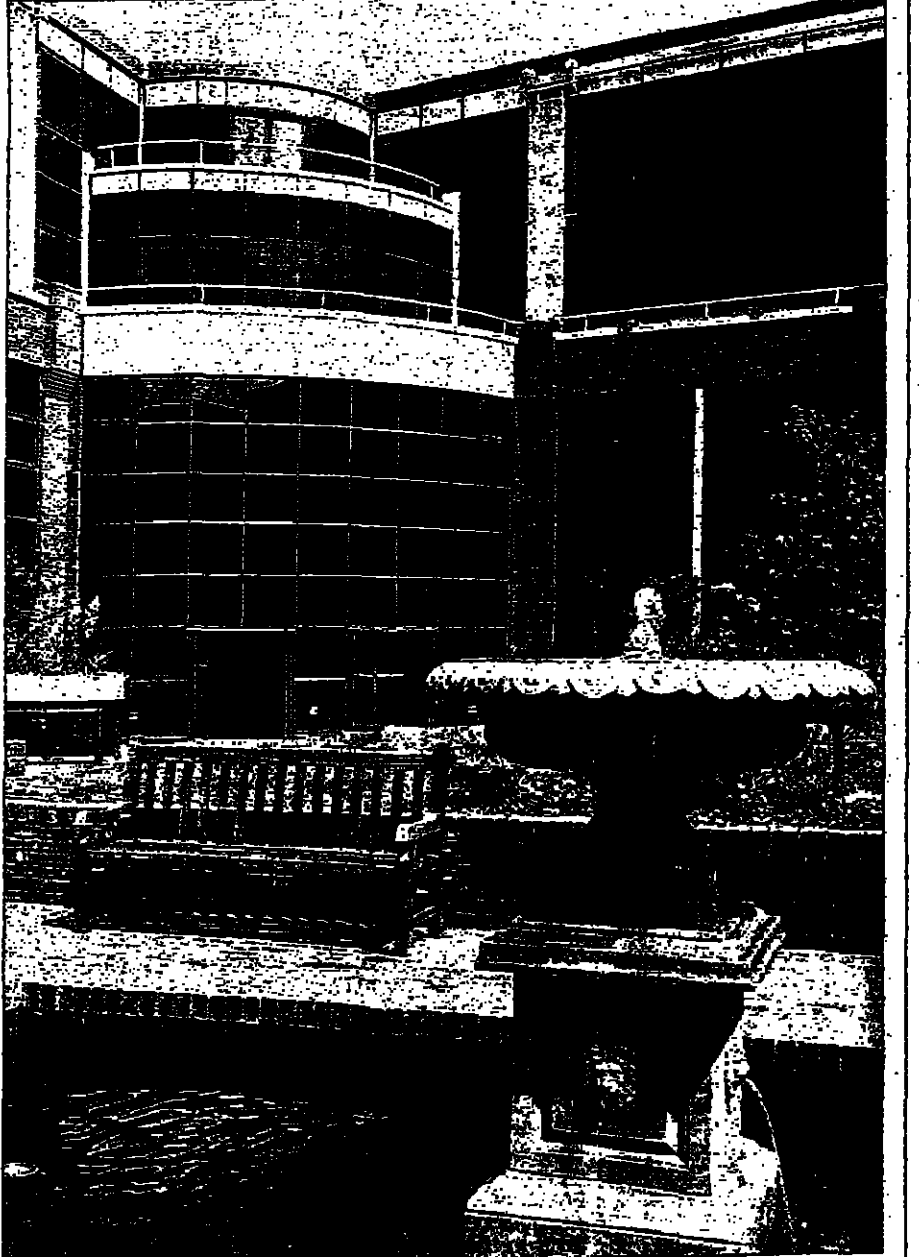
**'Bargains can be obtained despite low demand'**

from Jones Lang Wootton, concludes that with a few exceptions, notably Germany and Belgium, activity in Europe's main letting, development and investment markets has been slowing down, with little prospect of a significant upturn in the short term.

This provides an opportunity for occupiers and investors alike to exploit the reduced competition and more attractive pricing of the recession.

From the 25 property markets monitored in Jones Lang Wootton's Quarterly Investment Report - the European Property Markets, the clearest trend has been rising yields, reflecting both the reduced prospect of rental growth and upward pressure in interest rates.

As rents at the top of the market have generally flattened out or fallen, many investors have chosen to stay on the sidelines until they judge the market to be recovering.



LITTLE more than a six-bit from The Oval cricket ground, Cobalt Square is a new office development in south London. A 119,000 sq ft scheme of five buildings, it is set around a half-acre landscaped square, and is offered at £19.50 per sq ft by Bernard Thorne, on behalf of Price Waterhouse.

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# Progressive Retender to defy his Redcar burden

FOR a man who claims there is no great secret to winning handicaps, Luca Cumani has had at least his fair share of success. He can add to that with Retender in the Yorkshire Television Handicap at Redcar this afternoon. He is my nap.

Retender, unraced as a two-year-old, put up a good performance when less than eight lengths behind King Of Diamonds in his debut at Newmarket in April.

However, he did not progress in the same way as those two, and it has been a case of patience for Cumani, which was finally rewarded when Retender came good in a claimer at Yarmouth two weeks ago.

Retender took the lead three furlongs from home to beat previous winner Edge Of Darkness by three-and-a-half lengths.

His main rival today could be First Bid but he has come

up 8lb since winning at Beverley earlier this month and may have reached his limit. Retender is burdened with joint top weight but still looks too good for these.

Cumani can make it a double with Oliviad in the Norton Food Supplies Ltd Maiden Auction Stakes. Oliviad made a promising debut at York last month, only weakening in the closing stages when sixth, beaten seven-and-a-quarter lengths, behind Urry Urry.

Mary Reveley can also land a double with Amazing Feat and Grouse-N-Heather. Amazing Feat needed a stewards' enquiry to record the first victory of his career but looks capable of taking the Tetley Bitter Handicap.

Having shown some potential in his juvenile season, notably with a good fifth at

## Powerful Million challenge

A VINTAGE European contingent will fly to Chicago on Monday for the Arlington Million in an attempt to add to the successes of Tokomee in 1983. Teleprompter in 1985 and Mill Native in 1988 (Richard Evans writes).

Second Set, who would be suited by the forecast fast ground, will be joined for the big race on Sunday week by Exit To Nowhere, Dear Doctor, Star Of Cozene and Young Buster.

Other runners include River Verdon, Hong Kong's best horse, Golden Pheasant, winner of the 1991 Japan Cup, Tiger Spot, who won the Million last year.

Paul Kelleway is hoping that John Rose, yesterday's easy Brighton winner, can join the Arlington challenge.

"Unfortunately, we are only second reserve at the moment," said Kelleway, who saddled Madam Gay to finish third to John Henry in the inaugural running in 1981.

## Cole critical of Eddery's Gimcrack riding tactics

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

PAUL Cole spoke out yesterday about the riding tactics of Pat Eddery which cost the champion jockey a five-day ban at York last week.

On the eve of Eddery's appeal before the Jockey Club, the champion trainer said: "Riding would be in chaos and someone would be hurt if people are allowed to push through horses like Pat did in the Gimcrack Stakes."

Eddery, who rode Silver Wizard, was suspended for careless riding when he attempted to force his way between Green's Bid and the eventual winner, Splendid, both trained by Cole. Silver Wizard finished second but was subsequently demoted to third.

"Pat is the champion jockey and my runners were drawn one and two at York. If he can't find another way of passing them, he should hang up his boots, or let his brother Paul ride."

"He broke the rules of

racing. We were drawn one and two. Why should Richard [Quinn, rider of Green's Bid] let him through. He took the back-end of my horse away. You can't do that in races.

"York is wide enough. There is plenty of room. It is not as though it was Bath. Everybody has to do their best but there was no gap to go through."

Cole said he was confident



Cole confident

the Jockey Club would today uphold the decision of the York stewards. "I don't think Pat has got a hope in hell."

If Eddery's appeal is turned down, his already ruined chances of catching Michael Roberts in the jockeys' championship will have disappeared.

Roberts currently leads by 22 (157-135) and is making a steady recovery from an injury sustained in a gallops fall a fortnight ago.

After taking a day off on Monday, Roberts returned for one ride at Brighton yesterday. Blue Marine, a beaten odds-on shot, The South African has restricted himself to two rides at Brighton today.

"A knotted muscle under a shoulder blade is still nagging, but I'm improving every day," Roberts said.

Luca Cumani and Frankie Dettori were the combination to follow at the Sussex course yesterday, landing a 25-1 double with Field Of Honour and Jallat.

### MANDARIN

2.00 Flashy's Son.  
2.30 Grouse-N-Heather.  
3.00 Amazeat.  
3.30 RETENDER (nap).  
4.00 Hotaria.  
4.30 Oliviad.  
5.00 Minique.

RICHARD EVANS: 4.00 Make R Happen.  
Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Almeida.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

### 2.00 FURNITURE FACTORS RACING SCHOOLS HANDICAP

(Apprentices: £3,000; 0) (10 runners)

1 (1) 82100 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82101 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82102 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82103 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82104 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82105 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82106 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82107 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82108 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82109 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 2.30 RUNSWICK BAY CLAIMING STAKES

(£2,300; 1m 513yds) (13 runners)

1 (1) 82110 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82111 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82112 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82113 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82114 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82115 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82116 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82117 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82118 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82119 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 3.00 TETLEY BITTER HANDICAP

(£4,142; 7f) (15 runners)

1 (1) 82120 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82121 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82122 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82123 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82124 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82125 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82126 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82127 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82128 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82129 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 3.30 YORKSHIRE TELEVISION HANDICAP

(£2,626; 1m 30) (14 runners)

1 (1) 82130 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82131 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82132 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82133 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82134 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82135 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82136 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82137 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82138 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82139 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 4.00 ANDERSON'S NURSERY HANDICAP

(£2,400; £2,531; 5f) (11 runners)

1 (1) 82140 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82141 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82142 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82143 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82144 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82145 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82146 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82147 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82148 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82149 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 4.30 NORTON FOOD SUPPLIES LTD MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES

(£2,400; £2,531; 5f) (11 runners)

1 (1) 82150 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82151 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82152 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82153 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82154 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82155 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82156 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82157 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82158 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82159 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 5.00 JOSHUA TETLEY MAIDEN STAKES

(£2,511; 1m 20) (7 runners)

1 (1) 82160 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82161 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82162 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82163 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82164 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82165 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82166 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 5.30 SUPERIOR HANDICAP

(£2,511; 1m 20) (7 runners)

1 (1) 82167 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82168 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82169 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82170 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82171 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82172 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82173 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 2.15 SEASIDE MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES

(£2,070; 5f 213yds) (6 runners)

1 (1) 82174 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82175 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82176 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82177 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82178 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82179 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 2.45 SADDLESORE MAIDEN STAKES

(£2,070; 5f 213yds) (6 runners)

1 (1) 82180 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82181 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82182 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82183 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82184 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82185 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 3.15 NEWHAVEN SELLING HANDICAP

(£2,679; 7f 214yds) (17 runners)

1 (1) 82186 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82187 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82188 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82189 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82190 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82191 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82192 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82193 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82194 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82195 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 6.30 PLYMOUTH ALBION SQUASH NOVICES CHASE

(£2,233; 2m 1110yds) (7 runners)

1 (1) 82196 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82197 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82198 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82199 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82200 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82201 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82202 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 7.00 PLYMOUTH ALBION HURDY FOOTBALL CLUB CLAIMING CHASE

(£2,200; 2m 6f 110yds) (8 runners)

1 (1) 82203 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82204 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82205 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82206 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82207 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82208 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82209 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82210 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 7.30 RUTH BAKER MEMORIAL HANDICAP

(£2,333; 2m 1110yds) (12 runners)

1 (1) 82211 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82212 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82213 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82214 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82215 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82216 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82217 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82218 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82219 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82220 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 8.00 FANSHAIR NURSING HOME NOVICES HURDLE

(£1,516; 2m 1110yds) (11 runners)

1 (1) 82221 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82222 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82223 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82224 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82225 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82226 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82227 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82228 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82229 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82230 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 8.30 FANSHAIR NURSING HOME NOVICES HURDLE

(£1,516; 2m 1110yds) (11 runners)

1 (1) 82231 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82232 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82233 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82234 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82235 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82236 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82237 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82238 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82239 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82240 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 8.50 FANSHAIR NURSING HOME NOVICES HURDLE

(£1,516; 2m 1110yds) (11 runners)

1 (1) 82241 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82242 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82243 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82244 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82245 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82246 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82247 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82248 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82249 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82250 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 2.15 SEASIDE MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES

(£2,070; 5f 213yds) (6 runners)

1 (1) 82251 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82252 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82253 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82254 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82255 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82256 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 2.45 SADDLESORE MAIDEN STAKES

(£2,070; 5f 213yds) (6 runners)

1 (1) 82257 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82258 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82259 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82260 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82261 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82262 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 3.15 NEWHAVEN SELLING HANDICAP

(£2,679; 7f 214yds) (17 runners)

1 (1) 82263 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82264 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82265 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82266 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82267 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82268 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82269 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
8 (8) 82270 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
9 (9) 82271 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
10 (10) 82272 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 6.30 PLYMOUTH ALBION SQUASH NOVICES CHASE

(£2,233; 2m 1110yds) (7 runners)

1 (1) 82273 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2 (2) 82274 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
3 (3) 82275 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
4 (4) 82276 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
5 (5) 82277 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
6 (6) 82278 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
7 (7) 82279 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10

### 7.00 PLYMOUTH ALBION HURDY FOOTBALL CLUB CLAIMING CHASE

(£2,200; 2m 6f 110yds) (8 runners)

1 (1) 82280 EDWARDS PER 4 (J.P. Kelly) M. J. M. 3-9-10 M. J. M. 3-9-10  
2







you see how? up Can



Wright has chance to impress Taylor

## Prolific Oldham attack provides test for Arsenal

By Louise Taylor

JUST what will Arsenal's defence make of Oldham Athletic at Highbury tonight? Not only do Oldham arrive fresh from last Saturday's 5-3 win against Nottingham Forest, but Arsenal conceded four goals to Norwich City in their only other home Premier League fixture.

With Oldham's rearguard also inclined to be erratic, it could be a fruitful evening for forwards. Ian Wright, of Arsenal, the leading scorer in the first division last season, will be aware that Graham Taylor, the England manager, is due to name his squad for the international in Spain next week.

So will Paul Merson who, despite a fine by his club for not being fit enough, is regarded by some as a potential solution to Taylor's national traumas. Merson is restored to the London side in place of Anders Limpar, who is on duty with Sweden. John Jensen is also absent, with Denmark.

Ian Olney, a summer signing from Aston Villa, makes his first appearance for Oldham after completing a suspension carried over from last season, and he could well be marked by Colin Pates. Pates has spent most of his two years at Arsenal in the reserves, but did well when deputising for the injured Steve Bould in

|               | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Coventry      | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 9   |
| Derby         | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 7   |
| QPR           | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 7   |
| Blackburn     | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 7   |
| Middlesbrough | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5   |
| Everton       | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 5   |
| Oldham        | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 5   |
| Sheff Wed     | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 5   |
| Ipswich       | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 4   |
| Leeds         | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 4   |
| Man Utd       | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 4   |
| QPR           | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 3   |
| A Villa       | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 3   |
| Sheff Utd     | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3   |
| Arsenal       | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3   |
| Liverpool     | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3   |
| Nottn F       | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3   |
| Chelsea       | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2   |
| Southampton   | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2   |
| Tottenham     | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2   |
| Man City      | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1   |
| Wimbledon     | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 0   |

Arsenal's win at Liverpool last Sunday and is likely to continue in central defence.

Mark Robins simply could not stop scoring in his attacking days for England Under-21 and the Norwich City new boy has started in much the same vein at Carrow Road. He would doubtless love to further boost his tally at Manchester City — the enemy in those recent days when Robins wore the red and white of Manchester United.

Robins will, however, have to contend with Britain's joint costliest defenders, Keith Curle and Terry Phelan. The latter will make his debut for City following Monday's £2.5 million transfer from Wimbledon. Norwich have not

won at City for 12 years but one man keen to change that is Gary Megson, who swapped Maine Road for Carrow Road in a free transfer this summer.

Coventry were hardly the team the creators of the Premier League had in mind as early season pacemakers, but Bobby Gould's side are aiming for their fourth successive win, at home to Queen's Park Rangers. Gould, who was dismissed by West Bromwich Albion last season, predicted that the championship could be contested by one of the less fashionable clubs.

"I do not see any reason why ourselves, QPR or Norwich, should not come out of the pack and stay the distance. I just hope it will be us. I don't see why we cannot stay at the top."

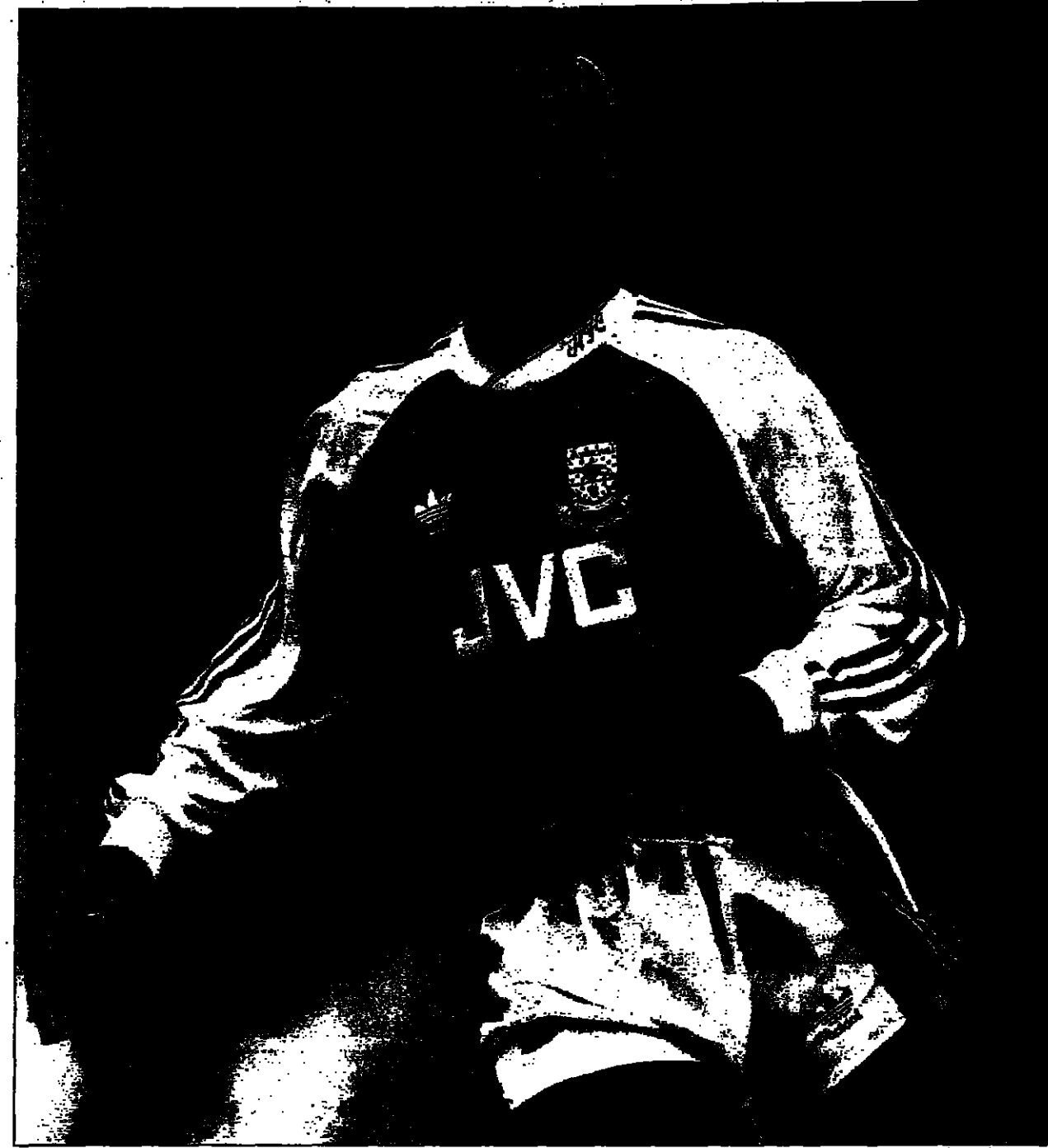
"Coming from Coventry, as I do, I have got to feel proud at having taken the club to the top of the league for only the second time in their history. Even my mother has rung up to say well done."

Gould — the manager who took Phelan to Wimbledon for a nominal fee from Swansea City — said that the new back-pass law could only assist the less-fancied clubs. "The whole thing has been thrown wide open by the rule because it enables teams of an inferior quality to put pressure on the opposition and stop them building from the back."

Blackburn Rovers, who visit Coventry on Saturday, aim to continue their bright start to Premier League life at Chelsea. Two Rovers especially keen to impress will be Alan Shearer and Stuart Ripley. Shearer wants to score the goals which will confirm himself, ahead of Arsenal's Wright, as the successor to Gary Lineker for England.

Ripley, meanwhile, would like a slice of the England action. The pacey and powerful winger has made an enormous impact at Ewood Park since his £1.3 close-season transfer from Middlesbrough and must be in contention for a chance in the England role variously occupied by Chris Waddle and John Barnes. Dennis Wise returns to an injury-riddled Chelsea side after suspension.

Like Blackburn, Derby County are big spenders, but they are still seeking their initial first-division win, something they hope to achieve at Leicester City — narrowly beaten by Blackburn in last May's promotion play-off — tonight.



Strike force: Wright, of Arsenal, is a leading candidate to succeed Lineker as England's potent forward

## Dublin seizes his chance

WHEN John Beck persuaded Manchester United to pay £1 million for Dion Dublin earlier this summer, the general consensus was that the Cambridge United manager had done rather well for his club.

Not best pleased at being dismissed as a panic buy on the part of Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, Dublin quickly retorted with United's winning goal in a 1-0 victory in the Premier League at Southampton on Monday night.

Dublin repaid the first instalment of Ferguson's investment by side-footing the ball home from four yards in the final minute of his first full game. It may not have been anywhere near as spectacular as the goals which were featured on a video of the player which Beck compiled and sent to Ferguson, but it was sufficient to provide United with their first win in the Premier League.

"We have not had someone like Dion for years, not since Joe Jordan," a relieved Ferguson said afterwards. "Apart from his goal Dion linked up well. He is a different type of

player who gives us options. What decided us on Dion was the video of his goals for Cambridge. I have said that I defy anyone to show me a better variety of goals than the ones he scored. They made me sit up."

Dublin, 23, who scored 73 goals in three seasons as Cambridge climbed from the fourth to the second division, said: "The goal should help me settle down and relax. I was very nervous but I get like that before every game. I need nervous energy to get me through the first 15 minutes and then your fitness takes over."

"But the £1 million tag does not bother me. I just want to go out and play football to the best of my ability. It was a bit of luck when the ball broke to me, but my only thought was that if I stuck it away it's the first win of the season and we needed that."

Ferguson, who had confined Dublin to warming the substitutes bench for United's first three games, bought the player only after failing to sign Alan Shearer from Southampton.

If, however, Dublin — who was rejected by Leicester City before failing to make the grade at Norwich City — continues in similar vein, Beck will not be the only man to have his name prefixed with the word shrewd when the deal is discussed.

Dublin's goal apart, it was anything but a night to remember at The Dell. Played in pouring rain, only the most committed of BSkyB's viewers would have kept their television sets switched on long enough to see Dion do what he does best.

John Toshack, the former Wales and Liverpool forward, will come out of retirement to play with the Swansea team he guided to the top of the first division ten years ago to fund food and medical aid for the town of Mostar, in Bosnia.

Toshack, the manager of Real Sociedad, in Spain, will appear on Tuesday, September 8, against the present Swansea City team in a game organised by Dzemal Hadzadzic, the Yugoslavian international full back who played in the first division side.

## Poor start for BSkyB initiative

JUST over half a million people watched the first five Premier League matches between Nottingham Forest and Liverpool — but Sky Television are still claiming that their football launch has been a success.

Figures issued by the Broadcasters Audience Research Board (BARB) yesterday show that an average of 520,000 watched the game on Sunday, August 16 — an increase of 130,000 on the figure for the Charity Shield match between Leeds United and Liverpool.

BBC TV's Match of the Day highlights attracted 5.6 million for the Charity Shield. Figures for their first Premier League programme will be revealed today.

BSkyB has invested £304 million in the rights to cover the Premier League over the next five years. A spokesman said: "It is still very early days and viewing figures will increase as the season progresses and more people buy dishes."

## Unbeaten Celtic set for Hearts battle

THERE is every likelihood that at least one of the three Skol Cup quarter-final ties to be played tonight will require extra time or even a penalty shoot-out before a winner emerges (Roddy Forsyth writes). The meetings of Dundee United and Rangers at Tannadice and Heart of Midlothian and Celtic at Tynecastle offer the prospect of very close contests.

The Edinburgh game, for example, is a repeat of the opening fixture of the league season on August 1 when Celtic took both points because

of an own goal by Craig Levein, itself the product of confusion about the newly introduced limits on passes back to the goalkeeper.

For Celtic the tie is the latest in a particularly demanding series of fixtures which has seen the Parkhead team play Aberdeen, Hearts and Rangers away from home and Dundee United at Parkhead. Despite this arduous opening, Celtic have the distinction of being the only undefeated side in Scotland.

In the other tie, Falkirk entertain Aberdeen.

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## FA charges Durie on case of feigning injury

By Louise Taylor

GORDON Durie yesterday became the first professional footballer to be charged with misconduct for allegedly feigning injury by the Football Association (FA). The Tottenham Hotspur and Scotland forward is accused of attempting to get Coventry's Andy Pearce sent off by pretending that Pearce had busted him when the teams met for a Premier League match at White Hart Lane last week.

The match referee, Dermot Gallagher, reported the incident to the FA and it has decided that there is a case to answer. Durie has 14 days to reply to the charge and is expected to request a hearing, possibly bringing a video, which he claims will clear him.

If found guilty, the player, who cost Tottenham £2.2 million when he left Chelsea at the end of last season, faces a hefty fine, lengthy suspension and a slur on his character. David Bloomfield, the FA press officer, said yesterday: "The charge is being brought on the basis of the referee's official report of the incident. The allegation that the player feigned injury is the first case

of that nature we have dealt with."

Tottenham were furious when, two days later, the referee was quoted in national newspapers, saying that Durie had fabricated the butt to have Pearce dismissed.

The club made an official complaint to the FA Premier League, criticising the referee and Doug Livermore, the Tottenham team manager, said: "We have looked at the video and it is clear that Pearce made contact with Durie."

Derby police yesterday confirmed that David Speedie, the Southampton forward, is

to be charged with assaulting a supporter after a match at Derby County last May.

The former Scottish international, 32, had been playing for Blackburn Rovers in a promotion play-off when, after the final whistle, he was alleged to have kicked a Derby supporter up the backside.

Mark Nile, the Middlesbrough physiotherapist, has also been charged with misconduct by the FA for allegedly "man-handling" a linesman at Highfield Road during Middlesbrough's opening Premier League fixture against Coventry.



Durie in the dock

## Scottish Super League sails into troubled waters

By Roddy Forsyth

PROSPECTIVE members of the Scottish Super League must be casting envious glances at their Premier League neighbours south of the border. On the day that the breakaway League admitted two more clubs and rejected two others, it ran into an obstacle that could delay it reaching its first season, a hurdle the English Premier League never had to negotiate.

After weeks in which the Scottish League and the growing number of rebels had traded headlines like tennis balls, the Scottish Football Association yesterday joined the fray. It said, simply, that it would not enter into any dialogue with clubs support-

ing the planned breakaway because it considers it not to be a properly-constituted football league. It thus, immediately, posed the breakaway group — who hope to be in business next season — with a serious problem.

None of the leading clubs wants to establish the new league without SFA support, which is essential for participation in European football. Since missing their forays on to the continent would be, for all the leading clubs, unthinkable, they must ensure that when the Super League does eventually get under way, it will be with SFA support.

In England, in contrast, the Premier League began with a blueprint drawn up by the Football Association. Its introduction was relatively

painless. Things will, clearly, not be quite as smooth in Scotland.

On Monday, the SFA executive committee met to discuss a request from Wallace Mercer, the chairman of Heart of Midlothian acting in his capacity as chairman of the Super League, asking the national association formally to recognise the breakaway movement.

Yesterday, Jim Farry, the secretary of the SFA, responded, saying: "The principle which has been adopted is that it is necessary for the association to approve any league or combination of clubs. The Scottish Super League at this stage is not an approved league; it does not exist. It is not an approved combination of clubs. There-

fore, it is not an authorised football body and anyone inducing another member club of the SFA to join such a body would be in breach of Article 73 of the national association's statutes."

The SFA's announcement follows a blocking manoeuvre earlier this month by the Scottish Football League, which declared that the letters of resignation received by the breakaway clubs, Aberdeen, Celtic, Dundee United, Heart of Midlothian, Hibernian, Motherwell, Rangers and St Johnstone — were invalid because they were charged with misconduct by the FA for allegedly "man-handling" a linesman at Highfield Road during Middlesbrough's opening Premier League fixture against Coventry.

However, the embryonic Super League chose yesterday

to announce that it had agreed to accept membership applications from Dundee United Athletic and Partick Thistle. Two more applications, from Airdrieonians and Dundee, were rejected, although it was stressed that the League hoped that both clubs would try again in the foreseeable future.

The statement by the Scottish Super League also contained a significant gesture towards conciliation with the Scottish Football League. It read: "To help bring about essential dialogue, we are contacting the Scottish Football League today to inform them that the ten club chairmen who represent the clubs in the Super League wish to meet with the Scottish Football League as a matter of

urgency. This is a positive step and we look forward to a fruitful meeting."

There was no official reply from the Scottish Football League yesterday, but it is expected that, like the SFA, the official body will not communicate with a body it does not recognise. It is likely, however, that the ten chairmen will ask for a meeting in their capacity as representatives of member clubs.

In addition, an extraordinary general meeting of the Scottish Football League will be convened shortly, probably next month, at which a proposal to form four divisions of ten teams will be debated. It is this proposal, supported by 30 of the existing member clubs, which offers the most likely chance of compromise.

## Evans keeps strong nerve

By Chris Smart

CHRIS Evans, little known outside the southern region where he regularly competes in pro-am tournaments, enjoyed his biggest pay day when he won the Casey Cefnform Welsh professional golf championship in fine style at Ashburnham yesterday.

Leading by two strokes overnight after a splendid one-under-par 71, Evans, 25, the head assistant at Prince's Club, Sandwich, repeated that score yesterday for a 36-hole total of 142 and a three-stroke victory over the former Walker Cup player, Neil Roderick. The one-time Welsh world cup player, David Vaughan, was a further stroke back in third spot.

Evans, who admitted not having slept a wink during the night, kept his nerve brilliantly even when news filtered through that Roderick, twice winner of the Welsh stroke play title, had birdied the opening two holes.

But Evans, to his credit, kept going steadily and at one time extended his overnight advantage to six strokes and it then looked as though he might coast to one of the biggest successes in the history of this championship.

However, there was a slight indication that he might be about to lose his nerve when he slumped to a couple of bogeys in a row early on the inward half. But he got his act together again and a birdie three at the difficult 15th hole seemed to put the issue beyond doubt. A steady finish saw him home with plenty of breathing space.

"I just cannot believe it. all the years of struggle have been worthwhile," Evans, from Wrexham who has been at Prince's since 1988, said.

Partly, he attributed his success to the fact that Ashburnham is very similar to Prince's in difficulty of links and the conditions prevailing over the past couple of days are similar to those he regularly encounters in Kent.

Any hopes Paul Mayo had of securing his third successive title were dashed when he took 41 to the turn. Kim Dabson jumped some 25 places with a closing 73, while Phil Parkin, the former British amateur champion, also had a 73 and finished in joint-fourth position.

Scores, page 25

## Yugoslavia fixture abandoned

Paris: Yugoslavia's World Cup football qualifying match against Iceland in Reykjavik next Wednesday has been postponed.

It is expected that Yugoslavia will be expelled from the World Cup competition on August 31 under United Nations resolution 757, which declared an embargo on contact with Yugoslavia following the civil war there.

If that happens, group five, in which Yugoslavia are placed, would be reduced to five nations, Russia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland and Luxembourg, with two teams qualifying for the finals in the United States in 1994.

Yugoslavia were excluded from the European championship in June. (AFP)





WOMEN p5

Jeanette  
Winterson:  
an idealist  
about love



# LIFE & TIMES

HOMES p7

Under the  
hammer:  
repossessed  
houses



WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26 1992

OPENING LINES: the first chapters of some of this autumn's strongest Booker contenders

## Pilgrim through a barren land



P.D. James's latest novel *The Children of Men* is set in a future England where human infertility has spread like a plague. In the third in our series, the central character, Theodore Faron, introduces himself...

FRIDAY 1 JANUARY 2021

Early this morning, 1 January 2021, three minutes after midnight, the last human being to be born on earth was killed in a pub brawl in a suburb of Buenos Aires, aged twenty-five years two months and twelve days. If the first reports are to be believed, Joseph Ricardo died as he had lived. The distinction, if one can call it that, of being the last human, whose birth was officially recorded, unrelated as it was to any personal virtue or talent, had always been difficult for him to handle. And now he is dead.

The news was given to us here in Britain on the nine o'clock programme of the State Radio Service and I heard it fortuitously. I had settled down to begin this diary of the last half of my life when I noticed the time and thought I might as well catch the headlines to the nine o'clock bulletin. Ricardo's death was the last item mentioned, and then only briefly, a couple of sentences delivered without emphasis in the newscaster's carefully non-committal voice. But it seemed to me, hearing it, that it was a small additional justification for beginning the diary today: the first day of a new year and my fiftieth birthday. As a child I had always liked that distinction, despite the inconvenience of having it follow Christmas too quickly so that one present — it never seemed notably superior to the one I would in any case have received — had to do for both celebrations.

As I begin writing, the three events, the New Year, my fiftieth birthday, Ricardo's death, hardly justify sully the first pages of this new loose-leaf notebook. But I shall continue, one small additional defence against personal accidie. If there is nothing to record, I shall record the nothingness and then if, and when, I reach old age — as most of us can expect to, we have become experts at prolonging life — I shall open one of my tins of hoarded matches and light my small personal bonfire of vanities. I have no intention of leaving the diary as a record of one man's last years. Even in my most egotistical moods I am not as self-deceiving as that. What possible interest can there be in the journal of Theodore Faron, Doctor of Philosophy, Fellow of Merton College in the University of Oxford, historian of the Victorian age, divorced, childless, solitary, whose only claim to notice is that he is cousin to Xan Lypplatt, the dictator and Warden of England.

No additional personal record is, in any case, necessary. All over the world nation states are preparing to store their testimony for the posterity which we can still occasionally convince ourselves may follow us, those creatures from another planet who may land on this green wilderness and ask what kind of sentient life once inhabited it. We are storing our books and manuscripts, the great paintings, the musical scores and instruments, the artefacts. The world's greatest libraries will in forty years' time at most be darkened and sealed. The buildings, those that are still standing, will speak for themselves. The

soft stone of Oxford is unlikely to survive more than a couple of centuries. Already the University is arguing about whether it is worth refacing the crumbling Sheldonian.

But I like to think of those mythical creatures landing in St Peter's Square and entering the great Basilica, silent and echoing under the centuries of dust. Will they realize that this was once the greatest of man's temples to one of his many gods? Will they be curious about his nature, this deity who was worshipped with such pomp and splendour, intrigued by the mystery of his symbol, at once so simple, the two crossed sticks ubiquitous in nature, yet laden with gold, gloriously jewelled and adorned? Or will their values and their thought processes be so alien to ours that nothing of awe or wonder will be able to touch them? But despite the discovery — in 1997 was it? — of a planet which the astronomers told us could support life, few of us really believe that they will come. They must be there. It is surely unreasonable to credit that only one small star in the immensity of the universe is capable of developing and supporting intelligent life. But we shall not get to them and they will not come to us.

We are outraged and demoralized less by the impending end of our species, less even by our inability to prevent it, than by our failure to discover the cause. Western science and Western medicine haven't prepared us for the magnitude and humiliation of this ultimate failure. There have been many diseases which have been difficult to diagnose or cure and one which almost depopulated two continents before it spent itself. But we have always in the end been able to explain why. We have given names to the viruses and germs which, even today, take possession of us, much to our chagrin since it seems a personal affront that they should still assail us, like old enemies who keep up the skirmish and bring down the occasional victim when their victory is assured.

Western science has been our god. In the variety of its power it has preserved, comforted, healed, warmed, fed and entertained us and we have felt free to criticize and occasionally reject it as men have always rejected their gods, but in the knowledge that despite our apostasy, this deity, our creature and our slave, would still provide for us: the anaesthetic for the pain, the spare heart, the new lung, the antibiotic, the moving wheels and the moving pictures. The light will always come on when we press the switch and if it doesn't we can find out why. Science was never a subject I was at home with. I understood little of it at school and I understand little more now that I'm fifty. Yet it has been my god too, even if its achievements are incomprehensible to me, and I share the universal disillusionment of those whose god has died.

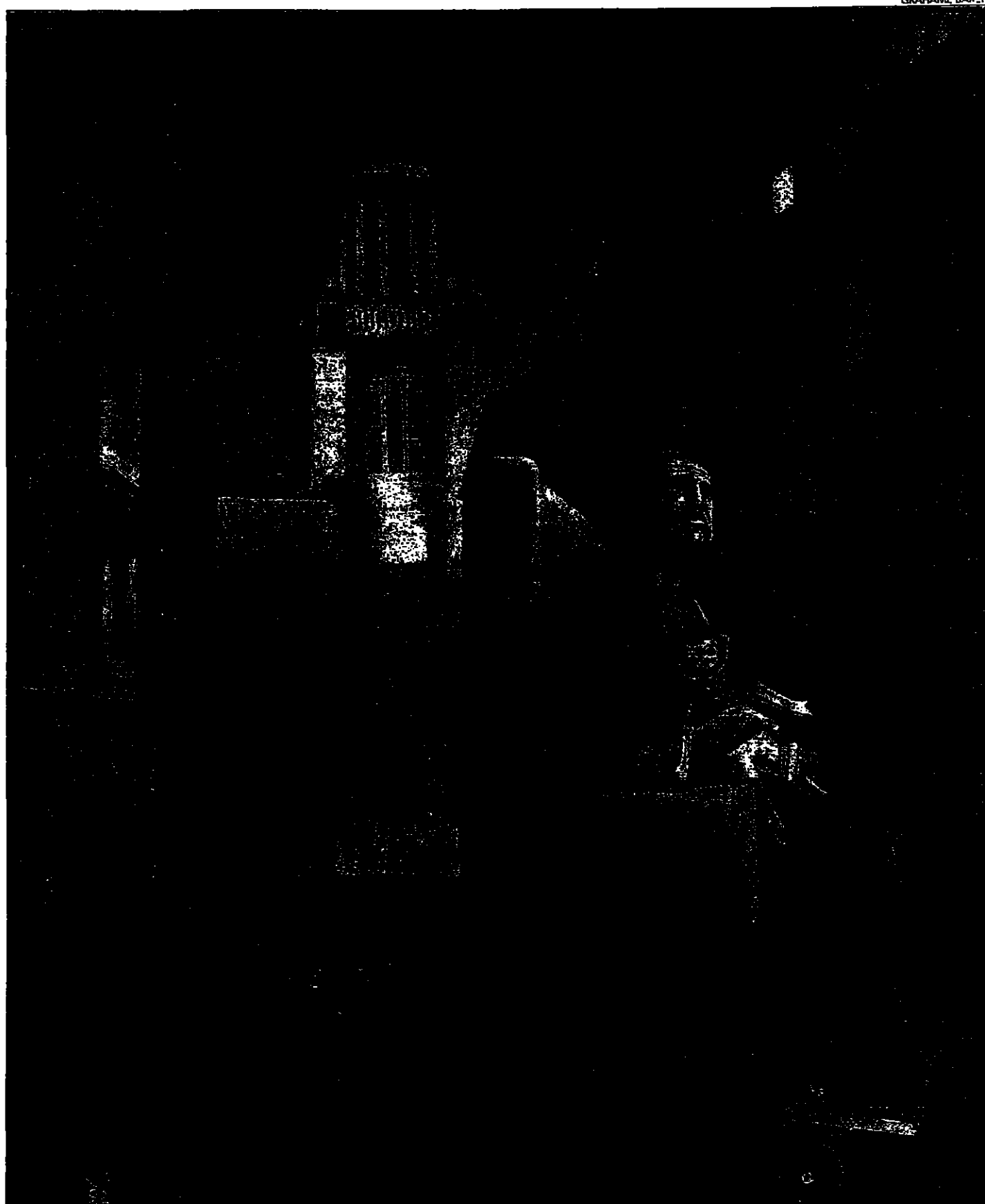
I can clearly remember the confident words of one biologist spoken when it had finally become apparent that nowhere in the whole world was there a pregnant

woman: "It may take us some time to discover the cause of this apparent universal infertility." We have had twenty-five years and we no longer even expect to succeed. Like a lecherous stud suddenly stricken with impotence, we are humiliated at the very heart of our faith in ourselves. For all our knowledge, our intelligence, our power, we can no longer do what the animals do without thought. No wonder we both worship and resent them.

In our universal bereavement, like grieving parents, we have put away all painful reminders of our loss. The children's playgrounds in our parks have been dismantled. For the first twelve years after Omega the swings were looped up and secured, the slides and climbing frames left unpainted. Now they have finally gone and the asphalt playgrounds have been grassed over or sown with flowers like small mass graves. The toys have been burnt, except for the dolls which have become for some half-demented women a substitute for children. The schools, long closed, have been boarded up or used as centres for adult education. The children's books have been systematically removed from our libraries. Only on tape and records do we now hear the voices of children, only on film or on television programmes do we see the bright, moving images of the young. Some find them unbearable to watch but most feed on them as they might a drug.

The children born in the year 1995 are called Omegas. No generation has been more studied, more examined, more agonized over, more valued or more indulged. They were our hope, our promise of salvation and they were — they still are — exceptionally beautiful. It sometimes seems that nature in her ultimate unkindness wished to emphasize what we have lost. The boys, men of twenty-five now, are strong, individualistic, intelligent and handsome as young gods. Many are also cruel, arrogant and violent, and this has been found to be true of Omegas all over the world. The dreaded gangs of the Painted Faces who drive round the countryside at night to ambush and terrorize unwary travellers are rumoured to be Omegas. It is said that when an Omega is caught he is offered immunity if he is prepared to join the State Security Police, whereas the rest of the gang, no more guilty, are sent on conviction to the Penal Colony on the Isle of Man, to which all those convicted of crimes of violence, burglary or repeated theft are now banished. But if we are unwise to drive unprotected on our crumbling secondary roads, our towns and cities are safe, crime effectively dealt with at last by a return to the deportation policy of the nineteenth century.

The university colleague who takes Omega with total calmness is Daniel Hurstfield, but then, as professor of statistical palaeontology, his mind ranges over a different dimension of time. Like the God of the old hymn, a thousand ages in his sight are like an evening gone. Sitting beside me at a College feast in the year when I



GRAHAM BAKER

was wine secretary, he said: "What are you giving us with the grouse, Faron? That should do very nicely. Sometimes I fear you are a little inclined to be too adventurous. And I hope you have established a rational drinking-up programme. It would distress me, on my deathbed, to contemplate the barbarian Omegas making free with the College cellar."

I said: "We're thinking about it. We're still laying down, of course, but on a reduced scale. Some of my colleagues feel we are being too pessimistic."

"Oh, I don't think you can possibly be too pessimistic. I can't think why you all seem so surprised at Omega. After all, of the four billion life forms which have existed on this planet, three billion, nine hundred and sixty million are now extinct. We don't know why. Some

by wanton extinction, some through natural catastrophe, some destroyed by meteorites and asteroids. In the light of these mass extinctions it really does seem unreasonable to suppose that *Homo sapiens* should be exempt. Our species will have been one of the shortest lived of all, a mere blink, you may say, in the eye of time. Omega apart, there may well be an asteroid of sufficient size to destroy this planet on its way to us now."

He began loudly to masticate his grouse as if the prospect afforded him the liveliest satisfaction.

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● *The Children of Men* by P.D. James is published by Faber on Sept 28 (£14.99).

Tomorrow: *Doctor Criminal* by Malcolm Bradbury

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## The lost world at one's fingertips

I have never lingered in cosmetics halls. In fact, I have never really understood what they are for. Why do they invariably lurk at the entrance of department stores, blocking one's progress to the real business inside? Is it a subtle fumigation process? Or is the idea to soften you up? The luxuriant chrome and lights, the shrill exciting perfumes, the gallons of moisturiser (in tiny pots) — I figure that this sensual riot is designed to trip up the women, and remind them that shopping is basically self-flattery and treats. By the time you actually buy something, you see, you feel so madly feminine that you shell out wildly for an extra tube of bath sealant.

But I am only guessing, because personally I always draw a deep breath at the threshold to the shop, take a last memorising look at my list ("Draino, Cat-flap accessories: Something for getting Ribena stains out of sofa") and then wifle quickly and invisibly between the little counters, tacking adroitly this alien sea of feminine frippery with my eyes half-closed against the undecorous glamour of it all. I'll pause nervously to examine a lipstick, and a lady asks "Can I help you?" I freeze, and then scuttle sharply to the lifts.

But suddenly, a few weeks ago, I felt an urge to paint my fingernails. It was weird and unaccountable. One minute I was quite normal and stable, attempting to play a well-regulated game of hide and seek with cats who can't (or won't) count to 20.

And the next, I was overtaken by an access of femininity, humming "I Enjoy Being a Girl" with brio, and breeding into cosmetics halls demanding a range of nail colours and offering to trade unwanted cat-flap accessories by way of payment. Funny how life can change.

Single life suddenly looked quite different, you see: I caught a glimpse of another world, originating in the sort of TV advertisement where pink gauze curtains billow sensuously in a boudoir full of white light and a woman with fantastic hair pampers herself with a beauty product (or tampons). Most people probably regard nail varnish as either functional or tacky, but to me it acquired the force of revelation. Previously the idea of pampering myself meant watching the *EastEnders* omnibus when I had already seen both episodes in the week. But now it meant inhabiting an aura of solitary voluptuousness, spending whole yummy evenings watching paint dry.

### SINGLE LIFE

Lynne Truss on the  
siren call of the  
cosmetic counters



Now, the interesting thing about nail polish is that it comes without instructions. Did you know this? This was my first setback, really, and it was one from which I never properly recovered. The other interesting thing is that nail polish remover, if you splash it about too liberally, removes polish quite indiscriminately — from your best sandals, for example, and your

chest of drawers. Also, it is not a good idea to put used cotton buds, soaked with nail polish remover, directly on a mahogany dining-table, because not only does the surface mysteriously acquire pits and scars, but the lacinations have white hair growing out of them, which won't come off again, ever.

Within minutes of starting my new regime, I had run up damages to an approximate replacement value of £1,200. But I was not down-hearted. I had applied a transparent goo of base-coat to all of my fingernails (including the right-hand ones, which were tricky) and was now ready to drink sherbet, eat Turkish delight, and watch an American mini-series until the next stage. "I'm strictly a female female," I sang. "Da da dum di da Dum de dee." I picked up the remote control from the carpet and was surprised to discover that a layer of speckled gunk had attached itself to all the nails that had come in contact with the floor. Split. Peering at the other hand (which looked OK), I cautiously tapped all the nails with a finger to check they were dry. They weren't. Three hours later my fifth attempt at a base-coat was almost dry, but I was feeling strangely detached from my surroundings.

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# Triumph on a plate for British baritone

In the latter part of the Salzburg Festival there was at last one opera production that Gerard Mortier and his supporters could with justification claim as a truly grown-up success—Salome conducted by Christoph von Dohnányi and directed by Luc Bondy. After the dress rehearsal, which is what the truly smart attend in Salzburg, the buzz went round about the young British bass-baritone Bryn Terfel's sensational Jokanaan, with many a "not since the young Hans Hotter" encomium. Catherine Malfitano had not sung out in the title role, and so came up on the inside, as it were, on the first night. By the second performance on Sunday they made an overwhelmingly powerful pair of antagonists.

Malfitano, a noted Butterfly (and still basking in the fame of her "real time" televised Tosca) has a really good edge to her essentially lyric soprano, one that projects easily over even Strauss's orchestra; she is also petite and an instinctively communicative actress, a natural, therefore, for Salome. She and Terfel's Jokanaan, a caged animal towering over her with distinctly equivocal reactions to the challenge of her sexuality, struck sparks off each other of a peculiarly disturbing intensity. Terfel's singing was indeed sensational, heroic of timbre, vividly dramatic of delivery. Every opera-house manager in the audience was mentally marking him down as their next Wotan; let us pray he says no for the next ten years.

Erich Wonder's sombre set suggested that Herod was busy constructing a bunker beneath his palace. Jokanaan was imprisoned beneath a concrete slab that had played havoc with the parquet flooring. Within it, Bondy played the piece as an intimate family drama. There were no extras, and Jews (lightly caricatured) and Nazarenes (blond and wholesome—some irony intended) entered only when the music demanded it.

The problem is that much of the motivation depends on the action being played out in public, but this was made up for by the concentration of Salome's interplay with Herod (Kenneth Riegel) and the elegantly dangerous Herodias (Hanna Schwarz). The chaste dance was with seven veils and nothing to do with removing them; far more tension was generated by Salome's gradual unveiling of the head, which came gift-wrapped in a cloth dripping with fresh blood. The final

**Bryn Terfel's success as Jokanaan in a stunning Salome has been the sensation of the Salzburg Festival, reports Rodney Milnes**

scene, rapturously sung by Malfitano, was truly disgusting. Dohnányi's conducting came as a surprise after his memorably delicate, silvery reading of Coward's *Garden* three years ago. Here he presided over a traditional, tub-thumping account of the score which was almost unbearably loud in the Kleines Festspielhaus. Maybe the Vienna Philharmonic players have it written into their contract that they need not play at less than *forte* in Salzburg. If so, the contract needs swift renegotiation.

This new *Salome* is a co-production with the Brussels Opera, Mortier's former fief, and it will be seen later in Chicago. Co-productions are new here, and not over-popular: audiences feel that high ticket prices should guarantee a certain exclusivity, but even in Salzburg financial realities must reign. There was much lip-curling in advance over the Ursel and Karl-Ernst Herrmann production of *La flûte enchantée*, which also came from Brussels and has already been to America: why should Salzburg put up with Mortier's cast-off?

In the event this early Mozart was, musically at least, a high point of the festival, trustingly conducted by Sylvain Cambreling and played with blithe spirit by the Mozarteum Orchestra. The cast was truly festive: Anne Sofie von Otter radiant in the trouser-role, Joanna Kozłowska as the eponymous fake gardener, Laurence Dale as her homicidal admirer, Malvina Major splendidly bossy as his fiancée, Ugo Benelli bringing true Italian dash to the Mayor, with Elzbieta Szmytka and Dale Dussing as the servants. I cannot imagine them being bettered.

The main thing is, the audience in the charming little Landestheater absolutely loved the performance, all four-and-a-half hours of it in a commendably full edition—that is what festivals are for. The

Herrmann's production was not to all tastes: fussy, farcical, and presided over by a cute, minute but mature woodland sprite, whose addition to the cast list raised any number of debatable "isms". And to play the murderous Count as a complete nutty right from the start (he fell in a ditch in his entrance aria and had to start again) is to avoid most of the issues of the piece. But it looked pretty and was carefully lit.

The festival's one grave disappointment, to put it mildly, was *From the House of the Dead*, Claudio Abbado, conducting as though Janáček's opera were being performed in some nightmare edition by Respighi, made no apparent effort to control the balance in the Grosses Schauspielhaus, the Vienna Philharmonic let rip and gave the score the full Mantovani sheen, through which the voices occasionally emerged.

The only member of the cast to make much impression was the American bass-baritone Monte Pederson, who managed to convey some of the agony of Shishkov's narration: Philip Langridge (Skuratov) and Barry McCauley (Luka) were defeated, wastefully so, by the orchestra and by crass direction.

Janáček's gung opera was staged by Klaus Michael Grüber in semi-abstract decor (Eduardo Arroyo) this cool, pastel-shaded and utterly empty, all effect and no cause. It was as though one of the key masterpieces of and about the 20th century were being sanitised, pretified and made acceptable to a Salzburg audience, to my mind an act of gross artistic betrayal.

The festival's only operatic nod in the direction of the Rossini bicentenary was a pair of concert performances of *Tamcredi*, deprived for music-political reasons of its two stars, Marilyn Horne and Edita Gruberova. Horne apparently declined to perform the original and infinitely superior happy ending, and Gruberova declined to perform without Horne.

As it happened, that much under-rated soprano Nelly Milgovich provided some of the week's loveliest singing as Améralde. She has everything you need for Rossini: a beautiful and expressive voice, style, taste and technique. A triumph! Horne's substitute was the young Veselina Kasarova, who had earlier sung *Antio in Tito*. There is much potential here, and I hope the rave reception she was given for saving the show will not impede steady development.



Head hunted: Catherine Malfitano in the title role and Bryn Terfel as Jokanaan in Luc Bondy's staging of *Salome*

**EDINBURGH: Benedict Nightingale on Fringe theatre, and David Robinson (right) on early highlights of the film festival**

## A nose for the rough stuff



Seldom can a chap have been more provocatively challenged than Tom Mannion, playing the title role in *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Traverse). His hoarse spouts from his face in a great bleated blend of toadstool, jellyfish, dangling testicle and embryonic bagpipe, and like the rest of Gerry Mulgrew's production, it is a refreshing corrective to recent revivals of Rostand's play. True, this is a surprisingly romantic piece, but it is supposed to be about love and war. I have seen *Cyrano* who loved like narcoleptics, fought like curates and sported clefts elongated little beaks, more likely to promote dalliance than disgust.

No chance of such sentimentalities when the Scots company, Communitas, comes bursting onstage, all physical bravado and humorous derring-do. Edwin Morgan, the translator, may come up with some odd rhymes ("foible" with "mible"), but his brash contemporary lingo seizes the attention, especially when put across in Glaswegian accents. Where Christopher Fry expected Rostand's hero to warn the foe with whom he is duelling that "the blade begins to titter", Mannion growls "it's kebabs time" and means it. His is a passionate, dangerous *Cyrano*, with his wild-man chair and glittering eyes: a tough warrior and, when he surreptitiously substitutes for Kenneth Glenaan's dumb Christian in the love-scenes



Malcolm Shields as Valvert: Tom Mannion as Cyrano

with Sandy McDade's Rosane, a genuinely desolate woe, almost whimpering with the pain of deprivation. Of course, the whole process goes too far. That is apparent from the moment the fashionable Hotel de Bourgogne is revealed as a makeshift fairground in which roughnecks in tuxedos buy ice-creams from girls with trays. It is even more evident when *Cyrano*'s Gascon noblemen swagger onstage in biker jackets. But the production, raw and raucous though it may be, still makes us aware of what has too often been missing from the play: inventiveness, energy, immediacy. In short, life. The Traverse may recently have switched operations from a building thrown together by Esau to one custom-built by Jacob; but its two auditoria still have an informal, box-like look, and the theatre's management has taken particular

care to fill them with rude, robust work. Take a not-uncharacteristic moment in Simon Donald's *Life of Stuff*, which is to be found, like *Cyrano*, in the black limbo of Studio One. Would you believe a Glasgow hood giving a credulous pothead a "sweetie" that is actually a sliced-off toe, and then pulling a do-it-yourself drill from his holster and holding it, quietly humming, at the throat of his next naked victim? Would you think me sadistic if I said that the incident is also very funny?

Donald is quite a find, a dramatist who can create a world that is gruesome, comic and utterly distinctive. It is one of dim girls looking for ecstasy parties and criminal psychopaths who vary from the sly through the megalomaniac to the utterly dopey. The story takes a confusing turn or two towards the end, but otherwise it adeptly mixes the tense with

the downbeat. What will happen to the apprentice gangster appalled to find that when he thought he was burning a van to get the insurance he was actually incinerating a night-club owner trussed up in the back? Will he be killed by the heavy with the power drill, the eczema problem and the unhappy childhood memories? Or will the victim be the swaggering yuppie whom both men deferentially regard as their boss? Whether the Glasgow underworld is as muddled or as vicious as this, I cannot say. But with Stuart McQuarrie, Brian McCafferty and Duncan Duff gamely battling it out, John Mitchell's crisp, sardonic production somehow retains credibility. So does another of the more admired efforts on this year's Fringe, Paul Mercier's *Stiff*, which involves an even more barbaric subculture: amateur soccer in the Irish outback.

The Passion Machine, as Mercier's company is aptly called, has only to bounce and clatter onstage for us to wonder why they aren't thrashing Arsenal instead of losing to no-hopie teams, so loud, pug-nacious and disciplined is the acting. Their fortunes improve with a new manager, Eamonn Hunt's Kegan, one of those grubby, disappointed business and angry alcoholic dreamers often to be found in Irish plays. He provides most of the human interest, but the other 11 actors, in their black shirts and anachronistic baggy white shorts, offer the eye-grabbing excitement. I have to say that I enjoyed their ferociously imaginative miming of matches far more than the draw between Chelsea and Oldham that I saw at Stamford Bridge the other day. But that may be a comment on English football.

Despite a constant battle with woefully inadequate funds, the Edinburgh film festival has a record of launching new talent and new films—Fassbinder, Wenders and Almodóvar: *My Beautiful Laundrette* and *A Fish Called Wanda*.

In 1958 the festival featured Roman Polanski's brilliant debut short, *Two Men and a Wardrobe*. Thirty-five years on, a surprise screening of Polanski's new *Bitter Moon* demonstrates that loyalty to former discoveries does not always pay off. In the course of a cruise, a polite young Englishman (Hugh Grant, the best thing in the film) is button-holed by a bitter, sardonic cripple who, with Ancient Mariner persistence, unfolds the unseemly tale of his sadistic sexual life and his tormented marriage. In the hands of a Burriel, the story could have been funny and satirical. Polanski turns it into an embarrassing, personal confessional, excruciatingly tedious at 150 minutes.

Ian Sellar better justifies Edinburgh's faith. Sellar first appeared at the festival years ago with a film school short, *Albert's Memorial*, and again in 1989 with *Venus Peter*. His new film, *Prague*, is a model

## Faith in the past

of European collaboration, filmed in Czechoslovakia with French and German stars, Sandrine Bonnaire and Bruno Ganz, and a pleasant new Scottish actor Alan Cumming. The anecdote is slight and stylishly charming: a young man arrives in Prague in search of a fragment of film of his forebears, killed by the Nazis; but becomes involved in the emotional politics of the film archive. It is anybody's guess if charm and whimsy alone will win the commercial acceptance at which *Prague* aims.

A Briton in America, Michael Apted, presents an unusual double *Incident at Ogdessa*, produced by Robert Redford, is a fast, straight-to-the-point inquest into the conviction of Leonard Peltier, a member of the American Indian Movement, for the murder of two FBI agents on Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota in 1975. Recording Peltier's

own convincing case, and the deep-rooted prejudices of many of the white lawyers and police involved, Apted appears to expose a terrible miscarriage of justice.

The case and the documentary are the inspiration of Apted's feature, *Thunderheart*, actually shot at the same reservation. Val Kilmer plays an FBI man cynically chosen to investigate a murder on the reservation, on account of his part-Indian blood. The shameful, third-world social condition of the Indians and the abuses of white racism are shown unsparingly, even if John Fusco's script in the end is side-tracked into mysticism and an evasive, romantic denouement—a wish-dream of Indian revolt.

The biggest successes with Edinburgh audiences have been, inevitably, Baz Luhrmann's unmitigated *Strictly Ballroom* and, less predictably, David Atwood's *Wild West*, a modest British film which makes up in exuberance what it lacks in polish. Its innovation is to see Pakistani life in Southall not in terms of social problems, but through the eyes of ordinary daft kids with unlikely but unquenchable ambitions to be Country and Western stars.



Bruno Ganz in Ian Sellar's *Prague*: the film is a model of European collaboration

## ARTS BRIEF

### Winner's winners

NEVER again can it be said that the great barons of the film and television world do not care about those at the bottom of the pile. The film director Michael Winner and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts have just announced a new award for deserving lower ranks—those bearing such titles as "runner", "best boy" and "general junior assistant". Called the Michael Winner/BAFTA Award for the Best Beginner, it will provide an annual £5,000 cash prize, together with £1,000 each for two runners-up.

The first winner will be announced in September 1993. Winner is funding the award himself. "One thing I know, having worked as an employer in motion pictures for 37 years, is that there are people right at the bottom, many of whom do an absolutely stunning job that has not been acknowledged."

### Ruffled feathers

AT English National Ballet the swans are getting agitated. First the company's artistic director, Ivan Nagy, announced that he was going to mount his own new production of *Swan Lake*, replacing the Natalia Makarova staging that has since been dropped. Now, Nagy says he is bowing out of the new production, which will be choreographed instead by the Russian ballerina Raissa Struchkova. According to the company, Nagy's change of heart is due to "personal reasons".

Struchkova, who retired from the stage in 1978, will use the sets and costumes from the 1982 *Swan Lake* designed by Carl Toms. *Swan Lake* is due to open in Southampton next February. ENB has also announced a new production of *The Sleeping Beauty*, choreographed by Ronald Hynd, and opening in autumn 1993.

### Last chance...

THE National Gallery's "Brief Encounters" shows bring together two or three paintings that are related in some way. The latest juxtaposes the gallery's own *The Courtyard of a House in Delft* by Pieter de Hooch, and Vermeer's *The Little Street*, from the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. De Hooch emerges as the more humane, Vermeer as an early practitioner of Magic Realism. Other early views of Delft by Carel Fabritius and Egbert van der Poel are also included in the show, at the Sunley Room of the National Gallery (071-389 3321) until Monday.

**CHAMBER MUSIC: Hilary Finch reports from Stavanger in Norway on an enterprising international festival which is now in its second year**

## Brief encounter brings lasting benefits

Stavanger's off-shore industry certainly oils the cultural wheels of this small coastal town on the south-west tip of Norway. But cranes and storage tanks are not the only monuments to the industry's importance to this increasingly cosmopolitan city. On the side of the harbor, two dome-like structures form the twin towers of the Stavanger International Chamber Music Festival. This year, the festival, which is now in its second year, is displayed at the new Stavanger International Chamber Music Festival.

perched above the docks, and with its offices in an old sawdust-canning factory, is the Stavanger Konserthus, built in the mid-1980s as part of a leafy campus which also houses the Conservatory, Community Music School and, now in its second year, the International Chamber Music Festival. Truls Mork, the cellist, and oboist Grigor Zubicky, founded the festival to provide Norway with a summer focus on chamber music which it

lacked in comparison with its Nordic neighbours. The Conservatory offered the use of its buildings free, and a secure team of local sponsors was readily available. Within a year the books balanced, the Commune of Stavanger gave the festival a permanent place in its budget and, among musicians, word was getting around that this, too, was going to be yet another significant meeting place. This year, Michael Collins played his clarinet in the

company of one of Europe's finest viola players, Tabea Zimmermann; members of the Allegri Quartet found themselves sharpening their wits in the presence of the outstanding young Czech cellist, Michaela Fukacova. The late night concerts, in Stavanger's romantic cathedral, produced, characteristically, some of the liveliest music-making. Tchaikovsky's *Sonnet*, *Souvenir de Florence* packed the cathedral. The unusually clear and spacious

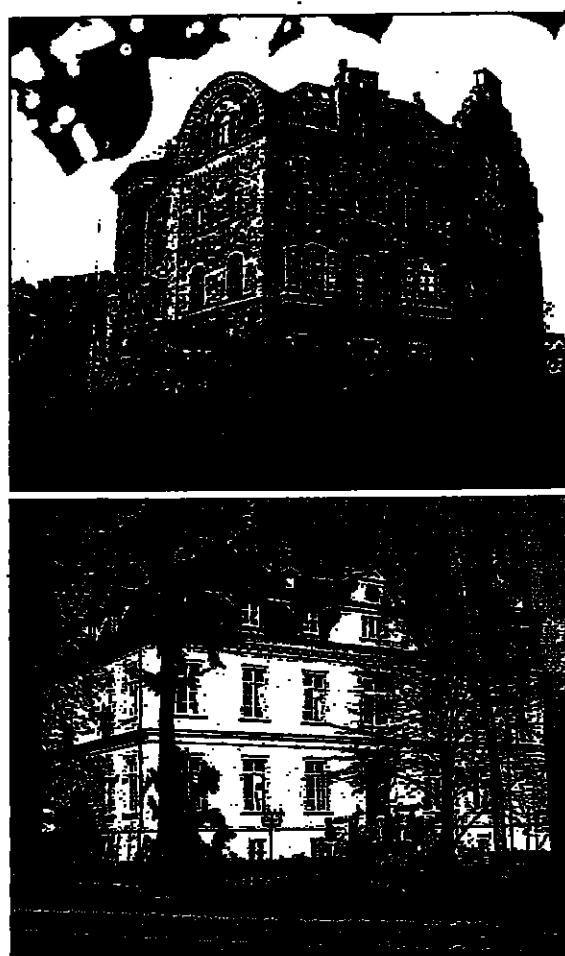
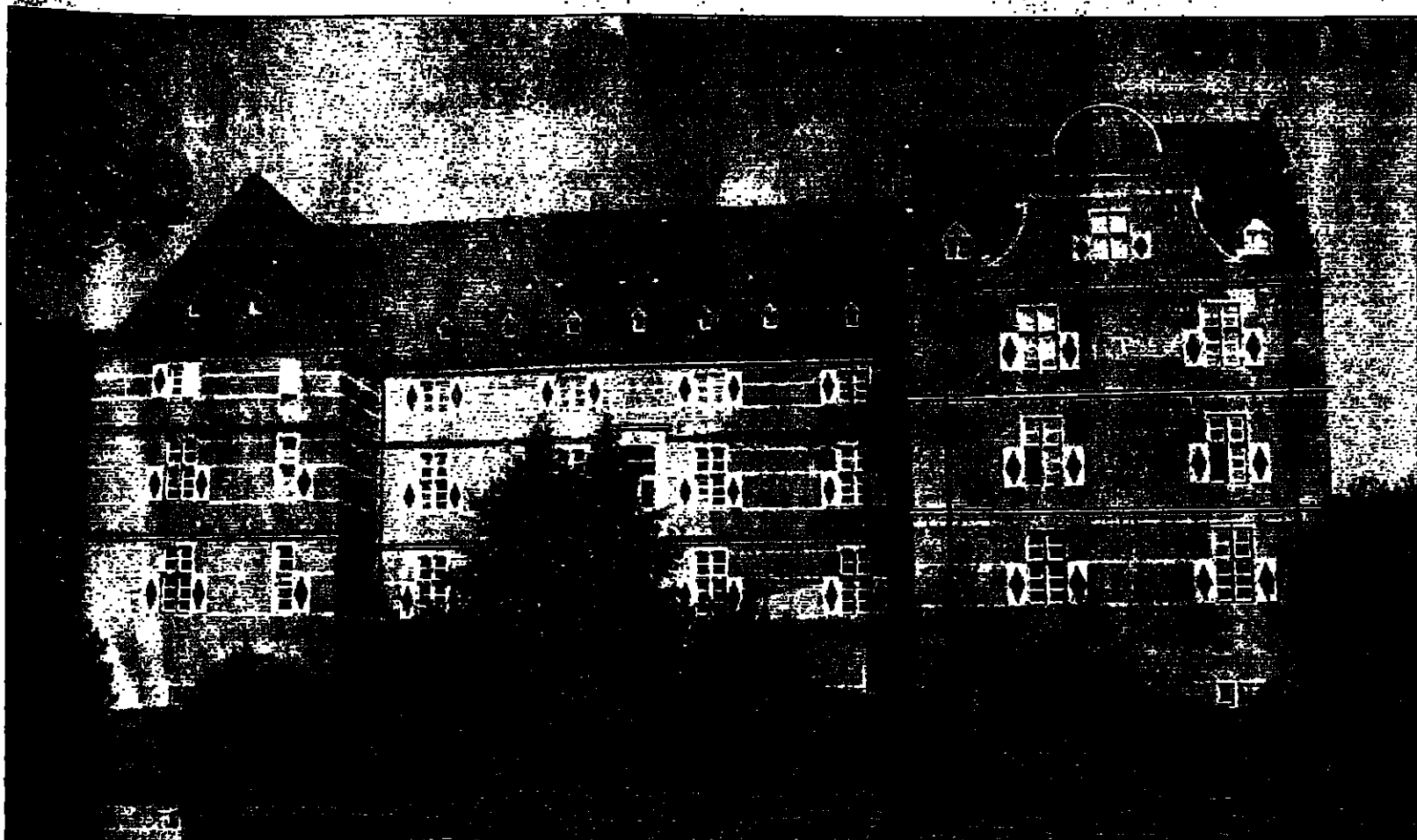
acoustic of the grey granite pointed up the playing of the Russian violinist, Sergei Stadler, second to Viktoria Mullova in the Sibelius Competition, first prize-winner in the 1982 Tchaikovsky Competition and, quite unjustifiably, virtually unknown in London. The evening before, Collins had found himself in the company of Peter Carter and Roger Tapping (Allegri Quartet), Fukacova, Halkan Ehren, double bass, Ib Lianzky Ono, horn (both from the Stock-

holm Philharmonic), and bassoonist Dag Jensen for a vigorous Beethoven *E flat Septet*. This was an unpredictable, risk-taking performance of the type unique to a festival in which musicians previously unknown to each other are worked hard (27 concerts in nine days) in a perilously short space of time. The setup has its casualties, of course: a Poulenc trio and one or two lunchtime items were under-prepared. The thorny Prokofiev Quintet Op 39, though, (featuring

Michael Collins, Tabea Zimmermann, and the incisive brilliance of American violinist Kurt Nikkanen) triumphed in a stimulating programme which also included Denisov's 1986 *Variation on a Theme by Schubert*. This piece introduced the 22-year-old, Moscow-born pianist Katia Skanavi who will tour Europe later this year with Yuri Bashmet's Moscow Soloists. The uncovering of powerfully imaginative musicianship like hers is just one of the achievements of a festival which is poised to become a vital part of the ever widening circuit of Nordic festivals.



# The man who collects castles



Castles in the hand: Schloss Bedburg (left), Burg Rheineck at Bad Breisig (top right), and Burg Hemmersbach at Kerpen where their collector, Herbert Hillebrand, has his office in the banqueting hall

The banqueting hall of Burg Hemmersbach at Kerpen, near Cologne, is vast. Four big chandeliers, swinging from the beams over a table large enough to stage a banquet for 70 people. But even this room is too small to house anything larger than models of Herbert Hillebrand's monumental collection. For Hillebrand probably owns more castles in Germany today than anyone since the days of the Hohenzollerns.

He is so fond of this collection, however, that he has had large-scale models of part of it made and stuck on the walls and sloping roof of the hall, which he uses as an office, so that he can look up and enjoy them while he works. They are so many bird's-eye views of his treasures, which must inspire him in running his international property and building empire, as he sits at one corner of the huge dining table he uses as a desk. So, too, must the wall-to-ceiling photograph of his ever-growing family, which covers the end wall of the banqueting hall.

The models are of 13 of his network of 22 castles all over Germany, which he has bought and carefully restored over the past quarter of a century. He is currently negotiating to buy six more from among the 200 which have been put on the market in eastern Germany since unification. He thinks that by the time he has a total of 28 his urge to collect will be satisfied, but there is a look in his eye as he gazes up at his models that suggests he is too

**Ian Murray on the ambitions of Herbert Hillebrand, a German property emperor who probably owns more moats and strongholds than anyone since the Hohenzollerns**

hooked on the castle-buying bug ever to stop.

Herr Hillebrand was a local builder in Kerpen who was becoming a successful property developer in 1970 when he bought Burg Disternich, not far away at Düren. It was in a sorry state of repair but he fell in love with the romantic moated and turreted stronghold, built by the Herzog von Jülich in 1217, and decided to renovate it as a present for his eldest daughter, Svenja. He paid only DM100,000 for it — in those days the equivalent of about £10,000 — but he had to find another million to restore and equip it with central heating and an indoor swimming pool — a non-authentic luxury which he has installed in every castle he has collected.

The renovation was such a success that he was inspired to go on. He decided, too, that it was unfair for just one of his children to have a castle. He set about finding one for each of them. A strong Catholic, who has become involved in charity work for orphans in South America, he has 13 children so far, including four adopted Colombian orphans. The youngest is just over a year old but she, like the rest of them, has a castle she can call her own. Some of his older children have already been given a second one.

The collection is not, however,

simply a rich man's expensive fable. "It is not a hobby," he insisted. "There is too much work and worry involved. It is much easier and more profitable to put up new buildings. But I do love the old buildings. If I could just do what I wanted, I would only restore old buildings."



They all have a turret of their own: Hillebrand with his children

Herr Hillebrand nevertheless aims to run his collection at a profit. His first priority when sizing up whether to buy a castle or not is "How can we use it?" Only when he is satisfied that the renovated build-

ing would be able to make money does he take into consideration how beautiful it is or where it is situated.

At the same time the final decision on whether to buy depends on whether or not he really likes the castle. "It is like with a woman. Some you look at and just say ja."

the Rhine and a splendid fortress at Hamburg.

He said that it was easy enough to find castles for sale if you wanted one. "There are many, many castles in Germany and most of them belong to the local communities. They do not have the money these days to look after them and are keen to privatise if only they can find a buyer."

In most cases, he said, he had been able to buy the castles very cheaply, although a usual condition of the contract of sale is that he renovates. The task of restoring a castle to its former glory is made easier by the extensive documentation available in state archives. "We have very thorough archives, even in eastern Germany, which we can use." These usually detail precisely what the building was like when it was first built and it is therefore possible to recreate the original ideas of the architect.

Some of the best labour he finds in Poland these days. The Poles have a particular skill in making the ornate plasterwork ceilings which were frequently a feature of the castles' more gracious rooms.

The tax authorities provide an added incentive to restore. All investments to preserve buildings which are officially recognised as historic buildings qualify for a ten per cent tax rebate for ten years. This

means that anyone preserving such a structure can reclaim the full cost of restoration from the taxman over a decade. "You should tell the British about that idea. That might help there," Herr Hillebrand said.

Once the castle is restored, a process which can take two years or more, Herr Hillebrand rents it out. Sometimes the local authority which sold it to him in the first place takes it over again. The castles have a variety of new careers as hotels, museums, offices, old people's homes and the like. Inside each of those belonging to his children, however, there is a small area of living quarters which they can use if they want to one day.

At present, however, his whole family live at Kerpen, absentee landlords of the castle collection. Busy as he is, Herr Hillebrand scarcely has time to visit the properties, although he does get to know each of them intimately during the complicated restoration process. They all become, in their way, his children.

Which one of them would he want to keep if he had to sell all the rest? Which would he move to his desert island? An affable man, who answered every question with a smile, Herr Hillebrand was worried by that one.

He strode up and down his banqueting hall gazing up lovingly at his collection, pausing and sighing in front of each of them. The choice was impossible, he frowned. "It would be too difficult," he said. "I would want all of them."

## MUSIC: CZECHOSLOVAKIA

### Baroque with cows

At first, Daniel Spicka recalls, it seemed a preposterous idea in communist Czechoslovakia: a baroque music festival at the ornate South Moravian chateau of Valtice, once seat of the princely Liechtenstein family.

"We are 400 yards from the Austrian border — there used to be guards with sub-machine guns standing over there," Spicka says, pointing to a hillside. Behind him, under the leaves of a centuries-old maple, a quintet in period-dress accompanies a harpsichordist on baroque instruments.

Extravagantly dressed guests file in and out of the brick wine-cellar where a sumptuous buffet is spread, and redine on the lawn drinking Valice's own 1989 Pinot Noir. Now it is in its third season, the Baroque Summerfest at Valtice does not seem at all preposterous.

Spicka, who is an architect and collector of baroque instruments, combined forces with Radomir Nepras, the chateau's chief restorer, to hold the first festival in 1989, when it was only an afternoon long. Now, over a period of eight days in August, visitors come from Prague, Vienna and London for a two-day programme of elegant baroque concerts, operas, picnics, feasts and fireworks. But Valtice is not a pure tourist event, since it is held as much for the 50-odd musicians as for the guests.

The leading early music expert, Jiri Koutouk of Prague's National Theatre Orchestra, is the music director. Scholars such as Professor Jan Smaczny of Birmingham University direct and produce the baroque operas and concerts. For a fortnight, the musicians live and work together at Valtice, much as court musicians must have done when Prince

Charles Eusebius von Liechtenstein sought to make his court the rival of the emperor's in Vienna, 65km away.

"It's exhilarating and exhausting," says Stephen Bull, a baroque violinist from London who directs the orchestra. "In eight days I've done 20 concerts. When we play on the lawn much of it is sight reading. Daniel refuses to tell us what to play. It's just as it must have been to be a court musician. The only person missing is Prince Liechtenstein."

A major attraction of the festival is the chateau itself. Released Soviet war prisoners, fearing Stalin would have them shot, seized the castle and made it a fortress, stabling cattle in the courtyard and damaging paintings, frescoes, furniture and rare books left behind by Liechtenstein.

Later, an agricultural co-operative took over the chateau, turning the theatre into a garage and burning the sets and costumes. But a massive restoration is under way, for behind the crumbling facades lie some of the finest interiors in the region.

Sometimes, the antique jars with the modern. At the far end of the lawn, five magnificent spotted brown cows graze serenely around a massive oak under the lazy eye of a consumed cowbird, in a Gainsborough-like *tableau vivant*. On closer inspection, one finds that the cows are chained to the ground. Then as evening comes on, and the visitors ride off in horse-drawn carriages to watch Marco da Gagliano's opera *La Dafne* in the castle courtyard, a blue lorry from the local co-operative farm pulls up, and the cows are trucked back home.

PETER GREEN

## New monuments for the Crimea?

Russian entrepreneurs are on the move to take over the old battlefields and cemeteries

The battlefields of the Crimea are being fought over once again. Free-market capitalism in Russia has created a new breed of cowboy: the Battlefield Tour Operator. Much to the irritation of the official Russian guide organisation, Intourist, these new entrepreneurs have been drawing up itineraries, booking buses and doing up the abandoned hotels that once provided de luxe summer residences for Party members, in an attempt to hijack the interest of British tourists in the area.

Causing the most anxiety, however, are their plans to refurbish British monuments and even to build some new ones. The cemeteries and memorials that once filled the landscape were destroyed by heavy bombing during the second world war, and the area is thus acutely short of "markers". Although none of the building plans have yet met with official approval by the British embassy or any of the British regimental associations, it is not for want of trying. Colonel Ivan Ivanov, one of the most celebrated of these new hucksters, has

drawn up plans for as many as five new British memorials. They were displayed in an exhibition he held in Sebastopol, timed to coincide with the visit of a number of British dignitaries to the area who he hoped might take him on.

He also has plans to build a new Crimean war museum in the shape of a cross, and he wants to excavate one of the British ships that went down off the coast at Sebastopol on November 14, 1854, which is said to contain full bottles of whisky. His most ambitious plan is to build a hotel right in the middle of the Balaklava battlefield.

"The trouble is, although they mean well, they are slightly misguided," says Lt Col Julian Lancaster, who is in charge of building a new official British memorial on Cathcart Hill which will open in October. "They wanted to recreate the cemeteries as they were before they were bombed, by just putting up new headstones without knowing where people were actually buried." Lt Col Lancaster is also worried that unless checked, the new entrepreneurs might start selling off

the surviving cannonballs, muskets and other items of historical interest.

Valmai Holt, director of Holt's Tours — Britain's longest established battlefields tour company — has been accused dozens of times by aspirant tourism magnates with flashy business cards. Although she describes some of their plans as "rather alarming" and not in keeping with British taste, which tends to be rather "purist" when it comes to battlefields, she applauds the fact that they are trying to promote new ideas. "The problem is there isn't room for dozens of Crimean war tour operators and conservationists, nor enough money. When I ask them how they intend to fund their projects their answer is always 'Money no problem', but who in Russia is going to support a plan to build memorials to the English, at a time when they can barely find enough to keep themselves alive?"

Certainly the irony of erecting monuments glorifying the military success of the opposition seems to have escaped these commercialists in their desperation for hard currency.



British officers on the lookout at Cathcart Hill: how will they be remembered?

There is an undeniable need for something more to be done to mark the area's historical importance. The memorial at Cathcart Hill will be the only one there. Meanwhile on the heights above the Alma there are broken headstones commemorating the Royal Welch Fusiliers who fell there, and even human bones lying on the surface of the ground. The North valley, the site of the Charge of the Light Brigade,

remains remarkably intact, as is the farm that formed Lord Raglan's HQ, but there is no guarantee that they will stay this way.

Despite their failure to secure much support for their own ideas, the new entrepreneurs have at least been allowed to help Colonel Lancaster with his current project. He has employed Russian workmen to build the obelisk because "the most important

thing as far as the Russians are concerned is to prove to potential investors in the West that Russian workmen funded by British money is a combination that can work, even if it is just on one war memorial". In fact they could not have chosen a better symbol to work on, or one more likely to inspire Western sympathy.

CATHERINE MILNER

## ART: ITALY

### Piero, Piero everywhere

His house now serves as an atmospheric display area and has opened its doors to an exhibition entitled *In Piero's Sphere: Painting in Central Italy during the Age of Piero della Francesca*. It traces the rise of Piero's art and the way it spread beyond his native territory, where many of his greatest works remain, to the courts of Italy.

The celebrations offer an opportunity to view some of Piero's masterpieces, such as

an impressive *Resurrection* or the polyptych of *The Virgin of Pity and St Julian*, in the setting of the Val Tiberina landscape which provides the background for many of the artist's works. Works which inspired Piero, by artists such as Sassetta and Beato Angelico, are also on view.

Another part of the celebratory cycle, located in the magnificent Ducal Palace in Urbino, is *Piero and Urbino: Piero and the Renaissance*

Courts. Under the enlightened patronage of Duke Federico da Montefeltro, the duchy became a major political and cultural centre in the 15th century and kept Piero busy fulfilling court commissions. The most outstanding of these are the diptych portraits of the duke, portrayed in red against a peaceful landscape, and his duchess, Battista Sforza. They are splendid examples of Piero's calm, mathematical art.

From Sansepolcro and Urbino, it is only 20km to Arezzo, where Piero's most famous fresco, the *History of the Holy Cross*, decorates the church of St Francis' Church. A novel exhibition in the lower church, entitled *Through Piero's Eyes: Clothing and Jewellery in the Works of Piero della Francesca*, looks at the exquisitely detailed detail of the jewellery and clothes worn by the people depicted in the fresco

and other major works. The bracelets, brooches and necklaces are recreated by the contemporary Italian jeweller Giulio Manfredi and include a faithful interpretation of the Queen of Sheba's diadem and a white-gold bracelet inspired by the rhythms of the fresco.

RUTH SULLIVAN

● *In Piero's Sphere: Painting in Central Italy during the Age of Piero della Francesca*. Curator: Piero Sansepolcro. ● *Piero and Urbino: Piero and the Renaissance Courts*. Palazzo Ducale, Urbino. ● *Through Piero's Eyes: Clothing and Jewellery in the Works of Piero della Francesca*. Basilica Inferiore di San Francesco, Arezzo. All exhibitions until October.

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

● **AMSTERDAM:** De Nederlandse Opera opens the 1992-1993 season with Saint-Saëns's *Samson et Delilah*, a co-production with Bregenz Festspiele conducted by Hartmut Haenchen. The pious Samson is sung by William Cochran and the heathen Delilah by Catherine Keen. Het Muziektheater, Waterlooplein 22, 1011 PG Amsterdam. Tel: (010 31) 20 6255455. Aug 31, Sept 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26.

● **GSTAAD:** The Gstaad-Saanenland Menuhin Festival at venues around the town. Performances include the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Sir Yehudi Menuhin on Aug 28, 29; *La traviata* conducted by Bruno Amaducci on Sept 5, and the London Symphony Orchestra under Michael Tilson Thomas on Sept 11, 12. Gstaad-Saanenland Menuhin Festival, c/o Verkehrsbüro, CH 3780 Gstaad. Tel: (010 41) 3047173.

● **PARIS:** *Manifeste* at the Centre Georges Pompidou is an exhibition of everything from the years 1960 to 1990 collected by the centre. On the ground floor is a section on design, from aeroplanes to lemon-squeezers. On the upper floors there are innumerable art exhibits — some of which, in the Pop Art and Conceptual Art sections, deliberately make you laugh, such as pictures of visitors taken by hidden TV cameras which are like distorting mirrors. Plus the 1905 to 1960 collection, including works from the estate of Matisse's son, *Manifeste*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris. Tel: (010 33 1) 44781233. The main art exhibition runs until Nov 9, but some sections will close from Sept 28 onwards.

● **STRESA:** The *Settimane Musicali* continues into September. The events take place in theatres and churches around the beautiful town on the shores of Lake Maggiore and in the Palais Borromeo on Isola Bella, in the middle of the lake. Highlights include the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Aug 30; the pianist Nikita Magaloff, Sept 7; and violinist Stephane Tran Ngoc, Sept 12. *Settimane Musicali*, Via R. Bonghi 4, 28049 Stresa. Tel: (010 39) 323 31095/30459. Until Sept 15.

● **VIENNA:** *Caricature and Satire*. An exhibition of 500 years of satirical drawings includes work by Leonardo da Vinci, Hogarth, Goya, Toulouse-Lautrec, and Daumier. Kunsthaus Wien, Untere Weissenhofstrasse 13. Tel: (43 1) 7120495. Daily 10-7pm. From Aug 20 to Oct 18.

HEATHER ALSTON



# Passionate apostle for the lexicon of love

Alice Thomson meets Jeanette Winterson, literary acrobat, uncompromising careerist and idealist about love

Here are the facts. She was born in 1959 and adopted as a baby by a Pentecostal Evangelical couple in Lancashire. In her mid-teens she had a romance with a girl, a fish-filletter. Her mother had her publicly denounced in the church and she was forced out of her home. She worked in a funeral parlour and as a domestic in a mental hospital before going to Oxford University and becoming a novelist. She has a personal astrologer and is an organic vegetarian. She owns a converted MG, two cats and is a lesbian.

Jeanette Winterson does not like facts. She prefers girls with webbed feet. A lady whose tears have turned to jewels. A family whose house has no floors so they spend their lives living on tightropes. A husband who gulps a vatful of poisoned milk and swells to such a size that he explodes.

Ms Winterson is the author of five novels, including *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*; *The Passion*, and *Sexing the Cherry*. Her latest, *Written on the Body* is about love and passion, concentrating on the most physical and tangible aspects of relationships, but remaining sensual rather than erotic. The main character is asexual but far from unsexed and the litany of love affairs she/he runs through seem highly personal.

Ms Winterson refuses to confirm or deny whether the novel is based on personal experience. "None of my novels are autobiographical," she says. *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* is about a founding brought up by Pentecostal parents who is forced out of her home for having a lesbian love affair, but this, as Ms Winterson explains does not make it autobiographical.

"My novels are stories and I will never for anyone sort out what happened and what didn't happen because the principle of my work is to suggest that we can never really know what did and didn't happen, that the boundaries between history and storytelling, between reality and dreaming, are always being blurred and muddled," she says.

What is certain is that Ms Winterson shares a house with her lover in Dartmouth Park, north London. She has a gentle demeanour and is slight but not frail. Her house is filled with delicate furniture and her soft Lancashire vowels echo around the sitting room. Like her novels her conversation does not follow a pre-determined course. She marries history to myth, aphorism to poetry and fairy tale to fact, but she always returns to love.

"Love is the driving human force, whether it is love in the passionate sense, filial or family love or love's obverse — hate. I am idealistic

about love. However it is debased or misinterpreted, it is a redemptive factor," she says. "To focus on one individual so their desires become superior to yours is a very cleansing experience."

Ms Winterson is concerned that relationships often founder on the clichés used to express passion and desire and hopes that her new novel will expand the lexicon of love, exploring uncharted linguistic territory, in an area where the literary paths are especially well trodden.

"Art is about tapping into the human condition and trying to define those turbulent, but often inarticulate emotions which boost everyone. Reassurance isn't about the answers, but finding a voice and a structure to your feelings," she says.

Although an intensely private

**'Love is the driving human force, whether it is love in the passionate sense, filial or family love or love's obverse — hate'**

person, she has an evangelical yearning to reach out to people and a gift for preaching which she learnt as a child brought up on a diet of the Bible and sermons. "A great many people write to me with their thoughts and questions. Women in particular need role models. I want to influence the way people think, to jolt them out of assumption and habit and let them discover their passions. I have a responsibility not to be shoddy or lazy in art or life."

Ms Winterson has no role models but does admit to admiring Dolly Parton for being strong, doing what she wants and for inventing herself. She reads some poetry and pre-second world war writers, but of her own generation says: "They are deeply complacent and there is a lot of copy-cutting. Few writers achieve their own form and open up new landscapes and there has been a total turning back of any pleasure in language."

She believes that, like love, words can both release and suffocate. She is, first and foremost, an amazing literary acrobat and, despite occa-

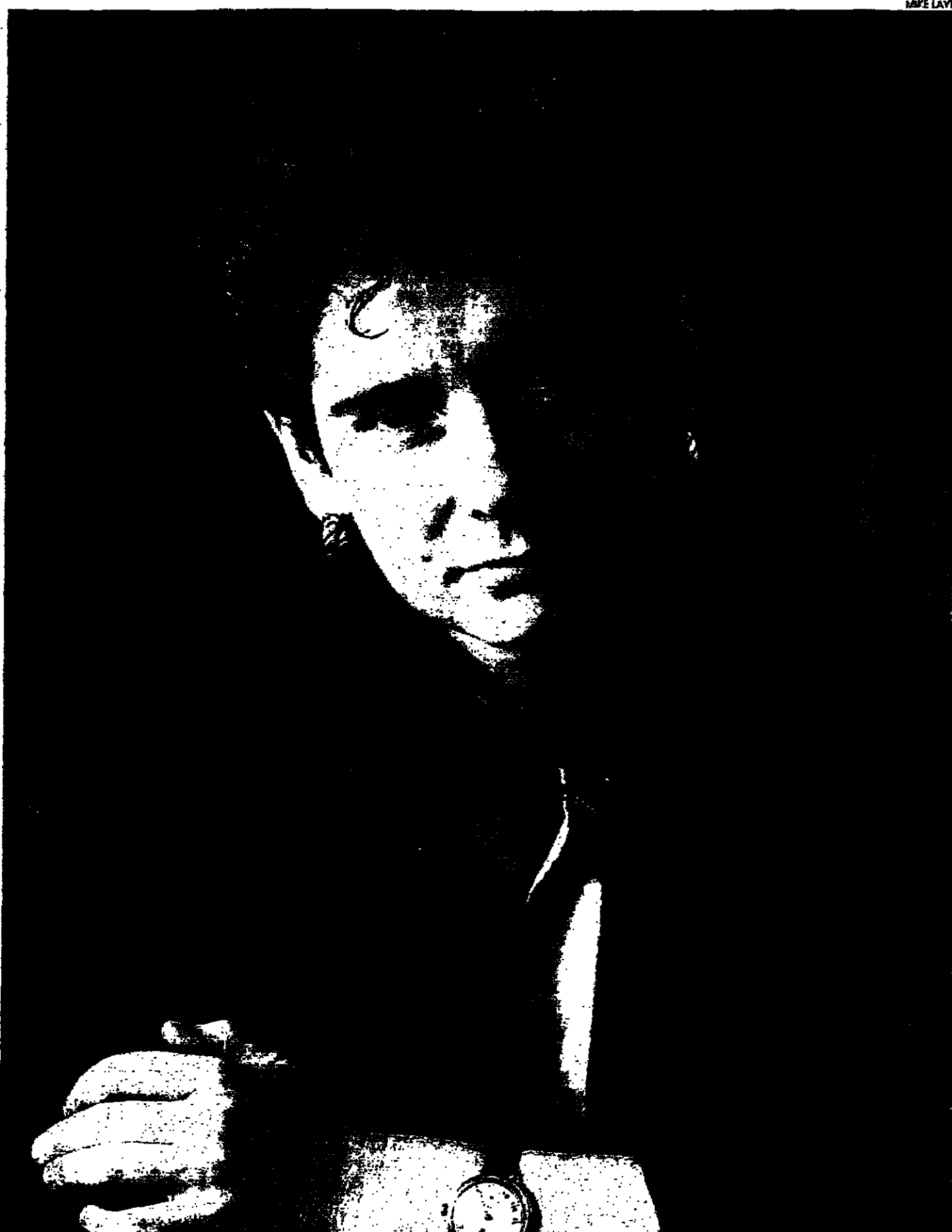
sionally appearing trite, seems able to make her stories, however fantastic, seem credible, as unusual language complements unusual situations. "I want to encourage language in all its complexity, that's what really excites me. Too often it is just sloppy and dirty," she says. "In the other arts you learn your craft first. Unfortunately language is the currency of everyday shopping lists. Writers need nothing, just pour out their experience and follow the rudiments of schoolboy grammar."

Not surprisingly, none of her close friends are writers. She has four good friends, all women — an actress, a publisher, a painter and an architect — who she turns to for support. But having been brought up by her mother to believe that she could save the world, her confidence in her own abilities has rarely wavered and extends beyond her own medium into television, newspapers and films.

She is best acquainted with television as *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* was made into a successful small screen drama series. She feels that she has managed to subvert the relentless realism of the medium and use it for her own ends, but is clearly still deeply suspicious of it, and refuses to own a television. "It's shoddy. We make fifth rate programmes when people deserve first rate ones. I can only make a certain number of programmes so most of the time there is nothing to watch. It would be better if the screens were blank," she says. As for newspapers, she is not prepared to read the "dunghill" of words that are churned out every day although she is prepared to write the occasional article.

Her attitude to films is less scathing but she still feels that they need the Winterson touch and has written a screen play, *Great Moments in Aviation* that will premiere at Cannes next year, about a black woman who comes to Britain in the late 1950s thinking it is the Promised Land. "It is about challenging your assumptions," she says.

This is typical Winterson. She believes that everyone should challenge themselves and is offering her advice on her career after an hour's acquaintance. "Everyone has potential. To compromise and turn your back on what you want is extremely damaging. In the Winterson world that cannot happen. You must keep developing yourself and see past your own full stops," she says. Her favourite characters are always pushing themselves forward. Flying off into the ether, dancing themselves into dizzy points of light, falling in love with beautiful women.



Role model woman: "I want to influence the way people think, to jolt them out of assumption... let them discover their passions"

As well as female beauty, Ms Winterson admires strong, wise women. They pepper her books, from the domineering mother in *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*, to the giant dogwoman in *Sexing the Cherry*. "I only work with women. I prefer their attitude, efficiency and calm," she says and calls herself a feminist though not a feminist writer. "We are still not in the post-feminist age. I am one of the few young women who has made it as a writer financially and internationally. Women aren't taken seriously until they are in their fifties."

She does not think these attitudes have alienated male readers and believes that her masculine charac-

ters are often role models (the two main ones so far are Jordan, the son of the dogwoman, an androgynous sort who dresses in petticoats, and Henri, an army cook who idolises Napoleon). "I wouldn't be naive enough to think that the males I come across on the street are sensitive, tender or loving," she says. "But I am prepared to put considerate men in my books because it may trigger something of the sort of man they would like to be."

"When I wrote about Jordan and Henri I got a lot of letters from young men, especially in the armed forces, confiding that they did cry in their bunks and feel insecure with

the he-man image. It may be that the macho conspiracy is so deep that men can't write about it. I don't know."

Ms Winterson only selectively engages in the outside world. On the rare occasions she is not working, her time is spent browsing in the British Library, cycling, looking after the cats, and seeing her friends. "I love my partner very much but she doesn't come first, work does," she says. "It wouldn't make any difference if I didn't see anyone or do anything. I would still be able to write."

She is prepared to enter the fray over certain issues and campaigns for Stonewall, the homosexual pres-

sure group, because, "someone needs to fight for our rights", but she dislikes being famous. "If I want to be asked about art or have tracks of my book quoted at me."

Her first four novels have brought both excellent reviews and financial independence, but if her fame fell away, she could easily leave her liberal, comfortable world. "I would live anywhere to keep on writing," she says. As Napoleon says in *The Passion*: "I go on writing so that I will always have something to read."

Written on the Body will be published by Jonathan Cape on September 10 (£13.99).

Far from being liberated by democracy, the Russian professional woman is finding life even more harassing

## Sweet talk, sour lives

"I'll pay," whispered the elegant American to Ella Levdanskyaya, when he realised his sweet talking was getting him nowhere. Ms Levdanskyaya, a teacher of English in a Moscow secondary school earns extra income as a guide-translator for business entrepreneurs in the new Russia. She describes the western commercial types as "Joint Adventurers".

The end of the planned economy has meant unemployment for many professional women. Nowadays, anything goes. Corruption, pimping and prostitution were not unknown in Russia before perestroika. It is just that now they have come out of the closet.

The American, 39-year-old Ms Levdanskyaya, divorced with a 14-year-old daughter, that he could have had any of the other women in the room. However, having employed her as a translator all day, she and she alone had become the object of his lust.

Sexual harassment has always existed, in Russia now it is endemic. Ms Levdanskyaya says she knows of one case where an office job was advertised and a very pretty woman was selected from a huge crowd of over-qualified hopefuls. She found she was expected to be the "office wife", serving her four male co-workers sexually, as well as doing the shorthand and typing.

"It is almost impossible for a western woman to understand the stress and pressure of a Russian woman's life," Ms Levdanskyaya says. "Western people disappoint me."

Her translating and guiding work gives her the advantage of meeting and befriending foreigners and now she has freedom and luxury to travel. She stayed in Surrey this summer with an English woman she befriended in



Images of indulgence: the real luxuries for women in the new Russia are female friends and happy marriages

Moscow, her daughter Eugene attended a local state school for a month. Talking about her life in Moscow over coffee with a group of women in west London, she was amazed by their sensitivities to class distinctions. Ms Levdanskyaya's conversation is riddled with references to class, which still powerfully effects the quality of every Russian's life. She feels no responsibility for the labouring classes, nor any altruistic zeal to help them raise themselves.

She spoke to several women's organisations during her visit and relates how a "Third World" woman advised her, "Tell the Russians not to destroy the statues of Stalin". "Of course," Ms Levdanskyaya says, "the Soviet Union was the best friend of Third World countries and now they feel neglected, but when they were visited the USSR, they were shown only the best things." Telling her how terrible life can be in Britain for black and Asian people cuts no ice with

Ms Levdanskyaya. "Life is terrible for all people in Russia; particularly for women." Contraception and family planning are one of the worst problems. The men hate condoms which are, in any case, not easily available. Ms Levdanskyaya is lucky; through knowing the right person, giving the doctor a present, and sending the Swiss supplier a record of her periods, she has now been fitted with her second Swiss copper "T". Russian coils are large and terribly painful to insert.

The Pill is used mainly by married women or women in stable relationships: "Russian men are very spoiled." Nevertheless, Russian women tend to stand by their men. They would never throw them out, Ms Levdanskyaya says, sex is one of the few pleasures the women have. A British sex therapist in one group of women she spoke to could not understand why Russian women did not form self-help groups. Said Ms Levdanskyaya, with some irritation, "If I had time for that I

would spend it giving private lessons to earn a little more money for my daughter". In a society where most have very little, envy and competition often sour potential relationships. Female companionship and friendship are a luxury. According to Ms Levdanskyaya, Russians are sexually prudish. Lesbianism "doesn't exist". The mere mention of Martina Navratilova elicits scorn, contempt and titers. Homosexual acts between consenting males are illegal.

Ms Levdanskyaya's English language students were reluctant to study Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Grey*, solely on the basis of Wilde's homosexuality, which was described in the preface written in the 1980s to have been caused by the excesses of a bourgeois lifestyle.

Ms Levdanskyaya studied English linguistics and has a degree from the Moscow Institute of Foreign Language, now called the Moscow Institute of Linguistics. Her career has been a little miracle in itself as she not only had to overcome the disadvantages of being a woman, but also of being Jewish, although her Jewishness is confined to her ethnic heritage.

Ms Levdanskyaya, married for seven years, has been divorced since 1986. "We have a lot of very unhappy marriages because of the problems of economic dependence and housing."

One thing that really fascinated her during her trip to England: "All those middle-aged couples holding hands and kissing each other hello and goodbye. They must have been married for 25 or 30 years. Is that really possible in the west?"

JUDITH STEINER  
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# Go west, young water flea

Where clam and crayfish reigned, quagga and ruffe are moving in. Now the Americans are out to stop the colonisation of their lakes. Nick Nuttall reports

The Great Lakes of North America are being invaded: plants and animals from Europe and elsewhere are pushing out native species and damaging habitats.

Many of the invaders are thought to have arrived by ship, sucked up from their native homes as ballast, to be discharged later into the water and estuaries of Canada and the United States. Other invaders have also come in ships, but as rock and sand ballast.

An estimated 136 alien plants and animals are now in the Great Lakes, with more than one-third of them having arrived in the past 30 years, an increase which coincides with the opening of the St Lawrence Seaway, according to a report by the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, based in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Native animals and plants have already been victims of pollution from man-made chemicals dumped in the waters by lakeside factories and chemical plants. In Lake Ontario fishermen go armed with books that detail the age of species, such as lake trout, based on their size. If the fish caught is over a certain age, it is either thrown back or put out with the rubbish at home: the catch is calculated to have built up unhealthy amounts of metals and other potentially poisonous pollutants in its system.

Added to such man-made problems, some scientists fear that the arrival and consolidation of the alien life forms, which have few or no natural predators in their new home, could further push many native creatures to the brink of extinction.

The most widely-publicised invader is the European zebra mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*, which is believed to have been dumped by an unidentified vessel into Lake St Clair in 1986.

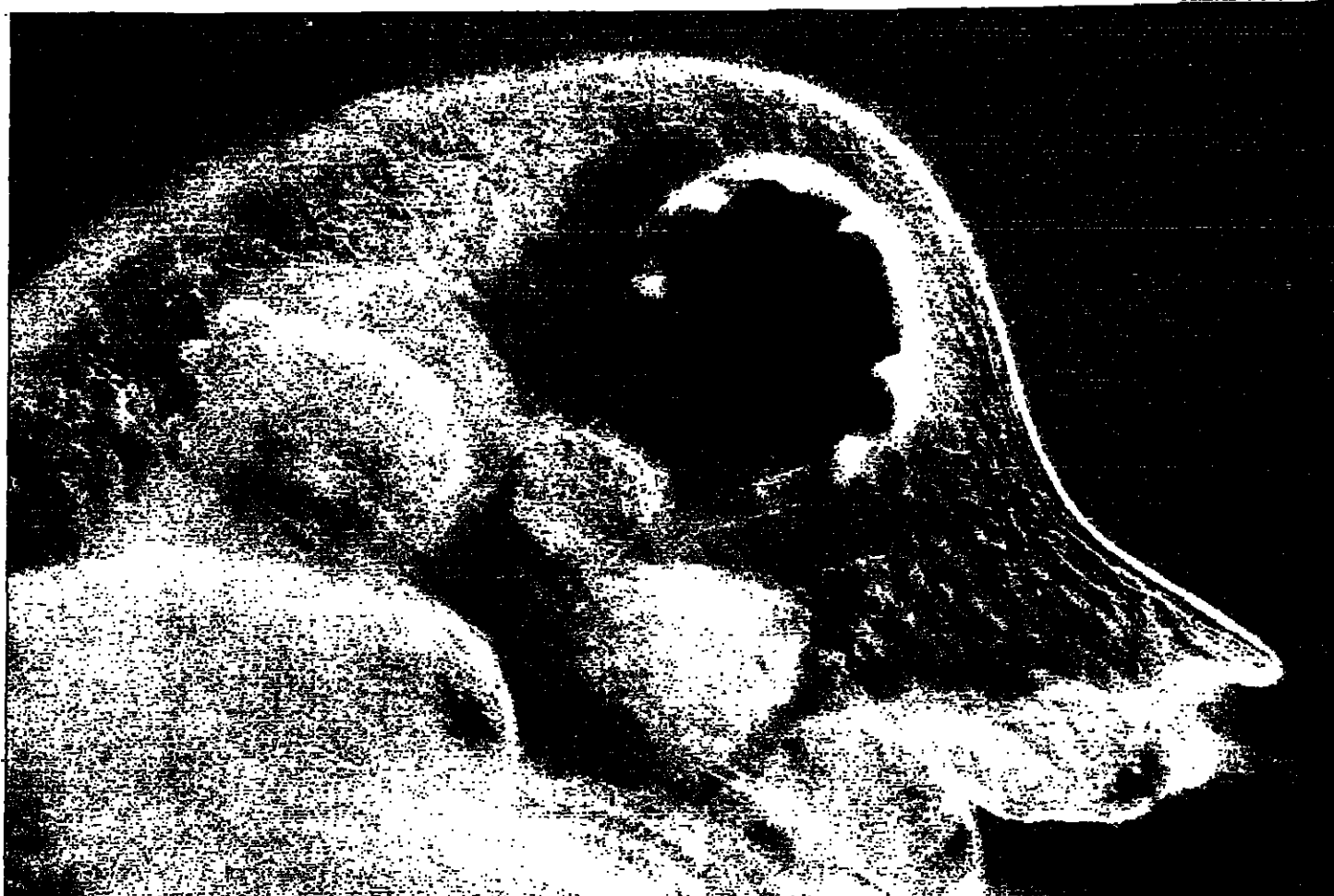
Since then, the mussels, which are 1 1/2 in long, have colonised thousands of miles of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, even as far as the Hudson, Susquehanna and Mississippi rivers, killing native clams and crayfish, often by suffocation.

Controlling the spread, a job currently being undertaken by the United States fish and wildlife service, is expected to cost £2.6 billion over ten years.

Now a new mussel threat has been identified in Lake Ontario by scientists at Cornell University's biological field station in Bridgeport, New York. Specimens were first trapped up from deep waters of the lake's southern basin in 1990, but were dismissed as being deformed zebra mussels.

However, studies in the Erie Canal prompted scientists to take a longer look and they have concluded that the bivalve is a different, alien, species. This has been confirmed by genetic tests. It has been christened "quagga", after an extinct relative of the zebra mussel.

Studies undertaken in June have found quaggas, which can be 20 to 50 per cent bigger than zebra mussels, living in large numbers among zebra mussels, a life-style which has been observed in the Black Sea and which offers clues to the origin of the ship which brought them to the Great Lakes.



Crustacean at risk: the *Daphnia*, an important source of food for small native fish, is now a prey for the European spiny water flea

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Bivalves are not the only threat to the natural wildlife of the Great Lakes. Scientists are also becoming worried about an alien fish called the ruffe, *Gymnocephalus cernuus*, which is a member of the perch family and was first seen in 1987 in the St Louis estuary of western Lake Superior, near Duluth-Superior harbour, the second busiest port of the Great Lakes.

According to a report in the magazine *Science News*, the fish is an aggressive competitor that tends to dominate any ecosystem it enters. Nearly two million are believed to be spawning in the estuary and ruffe have been found in Thunder Bay, Lake Ontario, and parts of the St Louis River, where their arrival has been accompanied by a fall in species such as the walleye.

quently moved into lakes Erie, Ontario, Michigan and Superior.

The flea, *Bythotrephes cederstroemi*, likes to feed on a microscopic crustacean, *Daphnia*, which itself feeds on algae. What concerns the researchers is that *Daphnia* represents an important source of food for small native fish, which could be reduced if the flea eats too many crustaceans.

Studies have found that this may already be happening, with some populations of *Daphnia* having decreased since the flea's arrival.

Not all alien life forms have been brought by ship to the Great Lakes. *Mysis relicta*, a tiny crustacean, is believed to have escaped from an aquarium wholesaler into a river which drains into Lake Huron. The Eurasian milfoil, a plant used in aquariums, got into the Great Lakes as long ago as 1880. Now it is pushing out native

## Oceans of information

Down in the cold blackness 1,000 metres beneath the surface of the Pacific, one of Professor Russ Davis's creations stirs. Barely perceptibly, it starts to rise. Less than half an hour later it breaks through the waves and announces its arrival to an orbiting satellite. Then it falls silent and sinks back down again to continue its undersea voyage.

Called ALACE (for Autonomous Lagrangian Circulation Explorer), it is one of about 100 similar probes launched since 1990 that report back to their creator once every two weeks. Together they are giving Professor Davis, an oceanographer at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California, insights into the currents that drive the oceans deep beneath the waves.

The circulation of the oceans is intimately linked to the Earth's climate, distributing the sun's heat around the globe. Yet for years scientists have known little about these currents, especially those beneath the surface.

The first attempts to map them, made in the 1950s, involved dropping probes from ships and trying

Scientists have found a way to track the movement of currents

to follow them. This proved hopelessly expensive. It became obvious that the probes had to be capable of looking after themselves.

Starting in the early 1980s, it took Professor Davis and his colleagues ten years to crack the problem: "What took longest was trying to generate the energy for going up and down for a long time," Professor Davis says.

This involved making ALACE in the form of a 120-centimetre long aluminium tube with an overall density just a little greater than surface sea-water. This ensures ALACE will sink. But as it descends it travels through water which is under ever-greater pressure, and thus of increasing density. Eventually, about 1,000 metres below the surface, ALACE encounters water of the same density as itself. It then

stops descending and floats around under the influence of the currents.

To make ALACE come up again, an onboard battery-powered pump pushes oil into a membrane across the base of the aluminium case. As the membrane expands, the overall volume of ALACE increases, though its mass remains the same. The density of ALACE thus decreases again, and the probe rises.

Once on the surface, a one-watt transmitter announces "I'm back!" to Argos, a French location system on board an American weather satellite. This gives Professor Davis the latest position of his ALACEs to within a few hundred metres, enabling him to work out the speed and direction of the currents.

By the end of the century, Professor Davis hopes an armada of 1,000 ALACEs will have given him the first detailed maps of the currents that swirl beneath the waves. The results will form part of the World Ocean Circulation Experiment, an international project aimed at understanding the link between oceans and climate.

ROBERT MATTHEWS

### UPDATE

## India set for space

INDIA intends to send probes to the planets, the head of the Indian Space Research Organisation says. Professor U R Rao told United News of India, the news agency, that the first satellite probe should be launched in six or seven years. India launched its first satellite in May this year. Professor Rao said that the first planetary mission would probably be to Mars, in 1998-99, and could be followed by missions to Mercury and Venus. He said he was not sure whether India could afford the cost of such ventures. "We must be ready with the technology and worry about the funds later. If the government cannot fund the entire project, we could collaborate with other countries," Professor Rao says.

### New cancer tests

AMERICAN scientists have developed a simple blood test that detects malignant melanoma and other deadly cancers at their earliest and most curable stages. Dr Donald Morton, of the John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica, California, said the test analyses blood samples for the presence of a "tumour-associated antigen" which is produced by cancer cells. "This is the first step in the creation of an early cancer-detection programme for individuals who are at high risk of developing malignancy," Dr Morton said. In a study of the test's effectiveness on 250 healthy subjects and 419 patients with melanoma, sarcoma, breast, lung or colon cancer, 56 per cent of the cancer patients tested positive compared with only 3 per cent of the control group, he said.

### Protein discovery

SCIENTISTS claim to have made an important step forward in the fight against Parkinson's disease, the progressive neurological disorder that causes tremors and rigid muscles. Researchers at the school of medicine at the University of California in Los Angeles have identified a protein that appears to be vital to healthy brain function. The protein, called chromaffin granule amine transporter or CGAT, aids nerve cells of toxic substances that may accumulate and lead to the type of brain-cell death seen in Parkinson's victims.

### Genetic progress

RESEARCHERS in Cambridge and at the University of North Carolina have claimed success in developing a mouse model for the human genetic disease of cystic fibrosis (CF). The Cambridge team, based at the Institute of Cancer and Developmental Biology, have created a mutation on the equivalent gene in mice. When both parents carry this defective gene, their offspring show symptoms similar to those of CF sufferers. Similar results have been achieved at North Carolina and mean that the genetically engineered mice can now be used to test new therapies for the condition, which is Britain's most common inherited disease.

### Faraday award

THE Royal Society has given the Michael Faraday Award for 1992 to Richard Gregory of the Psychology Department at the University of Bristol. Professor Gregory, whose work has encompassed vision and the brain, was given the annual award in recognition of his achievements in furthering the public understanding of science.



Current research: Professor Russ Davis (left) looks on as an assistant assembles an ALACE probe

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## BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax (49404) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (6126715)  
9.05 Defenders of the Earth. Space cartoon (6706978) 9.25 Why Don't You...? Make a water bomb, cook cheese straws and learn to be a clown (r) (4923568)  
10.00 News, regional news and weather (6380171) 10.05 Playdays (r) (s) (6172676) 10.25 Double Dare. Game show (r) (s) (3904423) 10.45 The O-Zone. Pop magazine (s) (6828688)  
11.00 News, regional news and weather (1684084) 11.05 The Flying Doctors. Australian drama series (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8279862) 11.50 National Trust Gardens. A visit to Ickworth House, near Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk (r) (6638539)  
12.00 News, regional news and weather (7681794) 12.05 Summer Scene. Linda Mitchell and Carol Keating present the daily magazine programme from Ebbw Vale (5942065) 12.55 Regional News and weather (s) (240510)  
1.00 One O'Clock News. (Ceefax) (s) (43674336)  
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (3294046)  
1.50 Eldorado. Monday evening's episode (r). (Ceefax) (s) (61714607)  
2.20 Over My Dead Body. Obits and Pieces. American crime drama series starring Edward Woodward (r) (s) (3294046)  
3.05 Antiques Roadshow. The team visit York (r). (Ceefax) (6591510)  
3.30 Bugs Bunny Triple-Bill. Cartoon adventures (4291997)  
4.10 Children's BBC. Attack of the Killer Tomato. Fantasy cartoon series (r) (s) (11452794) 4.35 Tricky Trains. Children's comedy series (r). (Ceefax) (6003361) 5.00 Newsround (5903046) 5.10 Five Children and It. Last in the six-part adaptation of E. Nesbitt's classic story (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9040978)  
5.35 Neighbours. (r). (Ceefax) (s) (965442). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) (s) (881)  
6.30 Regional news magazines (133). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s)  
7.00 Eldorado. (Ceefax) (s) (3249)



Definitely not retiring: Thora Hird, Lynn Redgrave (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Fighting Back: Thora Hird  
CHOICE: Thora Hird would probably not thank you for saying she was wonderful for her age but she jolly well is and even more so when you discover that for 30 years she has lived with crippling and intensely painful arthritis. But she has carried on almost regardless, hosting *Prize Be*, doing plays for Alan Bennett and forming part of that formidable team of imperious women in *The Last of the Summer Wine*. She is 81, has had three hip operations and may be heading for a fourth, and has no intention of retiring. Interviewed by Lynn Redgrave, who has only to offer the merest prompt, Hird gives a performance so self-pitying and so immaculate in its coming time that age and disability become almost a matter for celebration. No wonder that people are already queuing up to book her for 1993. (Ceefax) (s) (377)  
8.00 Casualty: Cascade. The final episode from the last series of this hospital drama. Beth's (Mamta Kaash) leaving party is disrupted when a plane full of holidaymakers runs into trouble. With Derek Thompson and Cathy Shipton (r). (Ceefax) (s) (844423)  
8.50 Points of View. Anne Robinson presents viewers' comments on BBC television programmes (s) (955862)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (1626)  
9.30 Cross of Fire. Concluding the mini series about the murder trial of D.C. Stephenson, the leader of the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana. Starring John Heard and Mel Harris. (Ceefax) (s) (942997)  
11.05 Film: Fran (1985). Downbeat Australian drama about a deserted mother of three, whose unorthodox and promiscuous lifestyle leads to conflict with the authorities. Starring Noni Hazlehurst and Anne Byrne. Directed by Glenda Hamby (962046)  
12.00am Weather (885027)

## BBC2

- 6.45-7.10 Open University. Data Models and Data Bases (5253317)  
8.00 Breakfast News (600404) 8.15 Bitten By the Bug (r) (3062355)  
8.30 Women of Our Century. Miriam Rothschild (r) (67930)  
9.00 Film: London Melody (1937, b/w). Jolly romantic musical about an Italian diplomat who anonymously helps a Cockney street singer to become a star in the London theatre. Starring Anna Neagle and Tullio Carminati. Directed by Herbert Wilcox (6095591)  
10.10 Film: Hamlet (1948, b/w)  
CHOICE: Laurence Olivier called his second Shakespeare film (after the rousing *Henry V*) the "tragedy of a man who could not make up his mind." It is a neat phrase to sum up a complex drama, here somewhat muted to keep within a running time of two and a half hours. Contemporary reactions were mixed. Olivier the actor, a prince with striking blond hair, went on to win an Oscar. Olivier the director was attacked by Richard Winnington, a respected critic of the day, for visual trickery and an inability to make the film flow. Certainly, there seems a contradiction between the theatricality of the sets and costumes and cinematic devices such as tracking shots and deep focus. But it is a bold, accessible and atmospheric piece, with Olivier strongly supported by Eileen Herlie and Basil Sydney (King and queen) and Jean Simmons's Ophelia (1937591)  
12.00 In the Making: Cook. The head chef of a hotel (r) (4250317)  
1.40 After Hours. American entertainment magazine (61142249)  
1.20 Forget-Me-Not. Children's cartoon (r) (63963133)  
1.35 Swims. Novices. Tips on swimming (r) (61795572)  
2.00 News and weather (95885510) followed by *Safe as Houses?* The housing crisis (r) (26957442) 2.35 Countryfile (r) (9150591)  
3.00 News and weather (4377591) followed by *All Our Children*. Dame Judi Dench narrates the story of the expectations of six babies around the world (r). (Ceefax) (6599152) 3.50 News and weather, regional news and weather (6993065)  
4.00 Craftsman. Film animator Bob Godfrey (r) (6384249)  
4.15 Film: Artists and Models (1955). Frantic comedy starring Dean Cain as an artist whose comic strips are based on Jerry Lewis's top-secret nightmarish sketches. Starring MacLaine and Dorothy Malone. Directed by Frank Tashlin (6794423)  
6.00 Star Trek: The Motion Picture. The first episode of the cult series intergalactic series. Captain Kirk and the crew of the Starship Enterprise have to outwit a deadly chameleon-like monster. Starring William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy (r). (Ceefax) (741881)  
6.50 Defi: Teenage Diaries. Julie Through the Looking Glass. A revealing and revealing video self-portrait by anorexic teenager Julie (r) (328249)



Standard bearer: Yuri Temirkanov conducts (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Live From the Proms  
CHOICE: As a useful interval film points out, the St Petersburg Philharmonic has always managed to reflect the history of its country. It was formed in 1882 as the court orchestra of the Tsar and required to play for state occasions. After the communist revolution it was charged with the task of bringing cultural enlightenment to the masses and for half a century was ruled with Stalinist severity by the conductor Yevgeny Maestrovsky. Yuri Temirkanov, who took over the baton just before communism collapsed, sees the orchestra as a standard-bearer for the new Russian democracy. In tonight's Prom, broadcast live from the Albert Hall, Temirkanov conducts a programme of Beethoven (*The Corsair* overture), Sibelius (*Violin Concerto*, with Maxim Vengerov) and, after the break, Tchaikovsky's *Manfred Symphony* (s) (3923152)  
9.45 Sweeney Firsts: Through an Open Window (b/w). The American film maker Eric Mendelsohn wrote and directed this short film about a housewife who fears a bird has entered her house. With Anna Meara (732978)  
10.10 Colour TV. The impact of the colour white (r) (233317)  
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron (486065)  
11.15 Edinburgh Nights. The British concert debut of Edinburgh-born Donald Runnicles who conducts the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (s) (1565721) 11.55 Weather (768262)  
12.00 Open University. Changing Voices (39244). Ends at 12.30am

## ITV

- 6.00 TV-am (5919354)  
9.25 Jubilee. Today's guests on the cryptic word game show are the comedian Bobby Davro and 'Allo 'Allo's Vicky Michelle (s) (7799775) 9.55 Thames News (7452220)  
10.00 Adventures of the Galaxy Rangers. Cartoon (7262997)  
10.25 The Fantastic Adventures of Mr. Rossi. Animation (r) (2765084)  
10.55 ITN News headlines (3109133)  
11.00 OX Tales. Famyard double-bill (3119510) 11.25 Just for the Record. Record-breaking feats (r) (s) (1807591) 11.50 Thames News (9286626) 11.55 Cartoon Time (6669330)  
12.00 News. Entertainment for the very young (s) (5933572)  
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News. (Orade) Weather (7519572) 1.05 Thames News (63988442)  
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama. (Orade) (182171)  
1.45 A Country Practice. Medical drama series (s) (181442)  
2.15 Graham Kerr prepares waffles with spiced apple butter (173423)  
2.45 Take the High Road. Highland soap (9143201) 3.10 ITN News headlines (4395997) 3.15 Thames News (4394268)  
3.20 The Young Doctors. (6126249)  
3.50 Children's ITV: Scooby Doo. Cartoon fun (r) (4277317) 4.15 Hulk Hogan. Adventures with the animated WWF wrestling champion (1446133) 4.40 Fun House. Messy game show hosted by Pat Sharp (r) (6325626)  
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge quiz for teenagers (4501084)  
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Orade) Weather (110065) 5.55 Thames Help, with Jackie Spredley (r) (857152)  
6.00 Home and Away. (Orade) (249)  
6.30 Thames News (201)  
7.00 Take Your Pick. The yes/no game show hosted by Des O'Connor, with Julie Wilson (s) (8317)  
7.30 Coronation Street. (Orade) (713)



Proud parents: The Larkin family plan a wedding (8.00pm)

- 8.00 The Darling Buds of May: When the Green Woods Laugh. First of a two-part story from the first series of the comedy drama adapted from the novels by H.E. Bates. Ma Larkin plans a lavish wedding for Mariette and Charlie. Starring David Jason, Pam Ferris, Catherine Zeta Jones and Philip Frank (r). (Orade) (s) (3591)  
9.00 Film: Hostage (1987). Action thriller about the bond which develops between an escaped prisoner and the lonely widow she takes hostage. Starring Carol Burnett and Carrie Hamilton. Directed by Peter Levin. Continues after the news. (Orade) (3555)  
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Armstrong. Weather (86201) 10.30 Thames News (472143)  
10.40 Film: Hostage. Conclusion. (Orade) (501713)  
11.30 Hollywood Report. A British view of Tinseltown (s) (55404)  
12.00 Film: Never Give an Inch (1971). Powerful drama starring Henry Fonda as the patriarch of a logging family who breaks a local strike in order to meet a timber contract. Co-starring Lee Remick and Paul Newman, who also directs (9053855)  
2.10am Alfred Hitchcock Presents: There Was a Little Girl. The flirtatious relationship between a young girl and her stepfather turns to murder (6099843) 2.45 America's Top Ten (s) (42992)  
3.15 Videofashion. Backstage before the French collections premiere (1899911) 3.40 Quiz Night. Pub and club team quiz (20780737)  
4.10 Grand Ole Opry. Country and western music (r) (4252891)  
4.40 Fifty Years On (b/w). Vintage newsreels (72817952)  
5.00 Three's Company. Like Father, Like Son. American comedy (s) (1565721) 5.15 Weather (768262)  
5.30 ITN Morning News (67027). Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Channel 4 Daily (2368256)  
9.25 Radar Men from the Moon (b/w). Science-fiction series (7237591) 9.40 Footrot. Cartoon about a stray dog (2399201)  
9.55 Get Smart. Secret agent spoof (9824713)  
10.25 Film: Hold My Hand (1938, b/w). Musical comedy, starring Stanley Lupino in an adaptation of his own play, as a newspaper financier whose young ward accuses him of embezzlement. Directed by Thornton Freeland (7183249)  
11.45 Air Post. A look at the GPO's early airmail service (4913356)  
12.00 Movie Winners: His Master's Ghost. The first of a three-part mystery drama from Australia (r) (14572)  
1.00 Sesame Street. Today's guest is the country music singer Waylon Jennings (r) (23220)  
2.00 Film: At War With the Army (1950, b/w). Military farce starring Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis as entertainers, trying to adjust to life in the army. Directed by Hal Walker (757959)  
3.40 Spacebourne. NASA space film (4288423)  
4.00 In Search of Scotland's Larder. The last in the series examines how the word "Scotch" is used to promote beef and lamb in Europe (r) (442)  
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (s) (626)  
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A discussion on girls who date older men (s) (2315355)



Leader of the pack: super bunny, Old Holburn (5.50pm)

- 5.50 The Runbury Tails Scramble. The cartoon adventures of a team of sporting rabbits (s) (84775)  
6.00 Treasure Hunt: Australia. Anneka Rice flies over Sydney in search of clues (r). (Teletext) (43084)  
7.00 Channel 4 News with John Snow. Weather (594355)  
7.50 Comment. A viewer's opinion on a topical subject (746152)  
8.00 Brookside. Merseyside soap. (Teletext) (s) (5607)  
8.30 Anton Mosimann — Naturally: Fish. The innovative chef prepares a meal using often overlooked and cheaper species of fish (r). (Teletext) (7442)  
9.00 Coast of Dreams. The first of two programmes about the British expatriates who have made their home on Spain's Costa del Sol (r) (Teletext) (1997)  
10.00 The Golden Girls: A Piece of Cake. Wise-cracking comedy with the Miami matrons. Sophia (Estelle Getty) recalls her fiftieth birthday (r). (Teletext) (1717)  
10.30 (Rts off) Josie. Highlights from the series featuring the versatile comedienne, actress and singer Josie Lawrence (s) (471133)  
11.15 Mojo Working: The Rolling Stones. A celebration of the group's 30 years in the music business (s) (341997)  
11.45 Siddy Moments on Tour with Julian Clary. The last in the series of cosmopolitan game shows from Scotland (r) (s) (420794)  
12.30am Four-Matrons. The series of Estonian animation concludes with two films, War and Hell (9989008)  
1.10 Film: Empiror-E-Azaz (1960). Epic adventure set in 16th-century India. Prince Salim clashes with his father, Emperor Akbar, over his romance with a dancer. In Hindi with English subtitles. Starring Dilip Kumar, Madhubala and Prichwari. Directed by K. Asif (9596279). Ends at 4.45

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## SATellite

## SKY ONE

- Via the Astra and Maripoc satellites  
6.00am Sky (96236) 6.30 Mrs. Peppercorn (594084) 6.45 Playhouse (5235249) 7.00 The D.I. Kat Show (722046) 7.30 The Pyramid Game (62131) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (39576) 10.30 The Best of Beauty (30046) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (39978) 12.00 Six Ewens (85084) 1.00 E Street (37394) 1.30 Geraldine (77317) 2.30 Another World (259413) 3.15 The Body Bunch (715422) 3.45 The D.I. Kat Show (39626) 5.30 Different Strokes (6220) 6.00 Baby Talk (1131) 6.30 E Street (77317) 7.00 All (65917) 7.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 8.00 Baltimore: Gateway to the Stars (6220) 8.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 9.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 9.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 10.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 10.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 11.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 11.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 12.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 12.30 Comedy Camera (59971)

## SKY MOVIES+

- Via the Astra and Maripoc satellites  
6.00am Sky (96236) 6.30 Mrs. Peppercorn (594084) 6.45 Playhouse (5235249) 7.00 The D.I. Kat Show (722046) 7.30 The Pyramid Game (62131) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (39576) 10.30 The Best of Beauty (30046) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (39978) 12.00 Six Ewens (85084) 1.00 E Street (37394) 1.30 Geraldine (77317) 2.30 Another World (259413) 3.15 The Body Bunch (715422) 3.45 The D.I. Kat Show (39626) 5.30 Different Strokes (6220) 6.00 Baby Talk (1131) 6.30 E Street (77317) 7.00 All (65917) 7.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 8.00 Baltimore: Gateway to the Stars (6220) 8.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 9.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 9.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 10.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 10.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 11.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 11.30 Comedy Camera (59971) 12.00 Comedy Camera (59971) 12.30 Comedy Camera (59971)

- 12.00 Twice Upon a Time (1983). Animated fantasy (77028)  
2.00pm Evening News (1990). Teachers try to overcome small town racism (98133)  
3.00 The Fourth Man (1990). A boy tries to impress his father (82423)  
4.00 Flash Gordon (1950). The football star battles to save the earth (2274)  
6.00 A Little Bit of Heaven: with 10am (671400)  
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (991846)  
8.00 Johnny Handsome (1989). Michael Douglas as a con-man seeking revenge (87189)  
10.00 Clean and Sober (1988). Michael Keaton tries to detoxify (301972)  
12.05am N.S.V.P. (1991). A film about men who try to "outlive" their jobs (967263)  
1.40 Relentless (1989). A maniac looks for victims from a director (1948263)  
3.10 She's Out of Control (1989). A girl is transformed by her stepmother (517669)  
4.40 Heart of Dixie (1989). The civil rights movement affects three students (8719553). Ends at 6.00am

## THE MOVIE CHANNEL

- Via the Astra and Maripoc satellites  
6.50am Evening News (1990). Teachers try to overcome small town racism (98133)  
3.00 The Fourth Man (1990). A boy tries to impress his father (82423)  
4.00 Flash Gordon (1950). The football star battles to save the earth (2274)  
6.00 A Little Bit of Heaven: with 10am (671400)  
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (991846)  
8.00 Johnny Handsome (1989). Michael Douglas as a con-man seeking revenge (87189)  
10.00 Clean and Sober (1988). Michael Keaton tries to detoxify (301972)  
12.05am N.S.V.P. (1991). A film about men who try to "outlive" their jobs (967263)  
1.40 Relentless (1989). A maniac looks for victims from a director (1948263)  
3.10 She's Out of Control (1989). A girl is transformed by her stepmother (517669)  
4.40 Heart of Dixie (1989). The civil rights movement affects three students (8719553). Ends at 6.00am

## THE COMEDY CHANNEL

- Via the Astra and Maripoc satellites  
6.50am Evening News (1990). Teachers try to overcome small town racism (98133)  
3.00 The Fourth Man (1990). A boy tries to impress his father (82423)  
4.00 Flash Gordon (1950). The football star battles to save the earth (2274)  
6.00 A Little Bit of Heaven: with 10am (671400)  
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (991846)  
8.00 Johnny Handsome (1989). Michael Douglas as a con-man seeking revenge (87189)  
10.00 Clean and Sober (1988). Michael Keaton tries to detoxify (301972)  
12.05am N.S.V.P. (1991). A film about men who try to "outlive" their jobs (967263)  
1.40 Relentless (1989). A maniac looks for victims from a director (1948263)  
3.10 She's Out of Control (1989). A girl is transformed by her stepmother (517669)  
4.40 Heart of Dixie (1989). The civil rights movement affects three students (8719553). Ends at 6.00am

## RADIO 1

- FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Bruno Brookes with The Early Breakfast Show (FM only) 6.00 Simon Mayo 8.00 Simon Mayo 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Simon Mayo 14.00 Simon Mayo 16.00 Simon Mayo 18.00 Simon Mayo 20.00 Simon Mayo 22.00 Simon Mayo 24.00 Simon Mayo 26.00 Simon Mayo 28.00 Simon Mayo 30.00 Simon Mayo 32.00 Simon Mayo 34.00 Simon Mayo 36.00 Simon Mayo 38.00 Simon Mayo 40.00 Simon Mayo 42.00 Simon Mayo 44.00 Simon Mayo 46.00 Simon Mayo 48.00 Simon Mayo 50.00 Simon Mayo 52.00 Simon Mayo 54.00 Simon Mayo 56.00 Simon Mayo 58.00 Simon Mayo 60.00 Simon Mayo 62.00 Simon Mayo 64.00 Simon Mayo 66.00 Simon Mayo 68.00 Simon Mayo 70.00 Simon Mayo 72.00 Simon Mayo 74.00 Simon Mayo 76.00 Simon Mayo 78.00 Simon Mayo 80.00 Simon Mayo 82.00 Simon Mayo 84.00 Simon Mayo 86.00 Simon Mayo 88.00 Simon Mayo 90.00 Simon Mayo 92.00 Simon Mayo 94.00 Simon Mayo 96.00 Simon Mayo 98.00 Simon Mayo 100.00 Simon Mayo 102.00 Simon Mayo 104.00 Simon Mayo 106.00 Simon Mayo 108.00 Simon Mayo 110.00 Simon Mayo 112.00 Simon 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